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REAGAN REITERATES STAND ON SDI TESTING

LD102346 Moscow TASS in English 2338 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 10 TASS -- The U.S. President has stated that the U.S. should help forward the research and tests within the framework of the "star wars" program. He met in the White House with a group of journalists.

Observers point out that it is for the second time in past several days that the head of the U.S. Administration makes a statement reiterating point-blank the intention of the U.S. not to confine itself only to the research within the framework of the "star wars" program, but also to test the component parts of that system.

SHULTZ ATTEMPTS TO JUSTIFY SDI CRITICIZED

LD101651 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Feb 86

[By TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Feb (TASS) -- The more resolute the protests of world public opinion, including U.S., against the militarist "star wars" plans worked out in the United States, the more actively and cunningly do they try in Washington to justify these dangerous schemes. The latest such attempt was made in an interview given to THE NEW YORK TIMES by G. Shultz, U.S. secretary of state. Praising SDI, he declared that it is the President's dream, allegedly, "to reach a stage when we could liquidate nuclear weapons altogether" and even asserted that this "dream" has played its part and had an effect.

I will not go into what Mr Shultz calls "the President's dream" -- perhaps Mr Reagan really does believe in the "salvation" mission of "star wars." However, the fact remains that if anyone in Washington does believe this, then for every believer in Washington -- and this is clearly confirmed in many statements by spokesmen of the Republican administration and by the U.S. press itself -- there are at least 10 cynics who have something in mind that is not at all like that which Mr Shultz interprets on behalf of the President. Some, understanding that an "impenetrable shield" cannot be created, are ready to settle for a smaller, limited antimissile defense which, in combination with preventive [upreshdayushchiy] strike against other side's forces of vengeance, would create the opportunity for unpunished nuclear aggression. Others simply want to make money: Let us recall that the combined profits of 10 leading U.S. military-industrial corporations have increased 150 percent in the past 5 years and the Pentagon is now calling for an increase in funds for producing "ultramodern" armaments by a further 75 percent. Others are making foolish calculations that by drawing the Soviet Union into an arms race in space, its economy can be undermined. Others would like to increase the technical lead of the United States over Western Europe and thus keep it dependent...

The following question then arises: If the whole point is really to put an end to the nuclear threat, is it worth taking the "faith" of a handful of "enthusiasts" as a guiding star? Why should the United States not agree in principle with the latest Soviet proposals: They provide a very much shorter, more direct, cheaper, and, most important, safer way of eliminating the nuclear threat -- the total liquidation of nuclear weapons?

Trying to justify the current concept in Washington about guaranteeing security by means of a "superweapon" in space, Mr Shultz states further: "SDI is one of the chief reasons why the Russians are putting forward arms reduction proposals...SDI is not so much a problem, rather it is an asset to us."

In other words it is a matter of instilling in the minds of the gullible that the U.S. "big stick in space" is not a threat to peace, but something like a lever enabling Washington to almost put pressure on Moscow, inducing it to hold talks.

Nothing could be further from the truth! We should recall in this connection that from the very moment when the plans for "star wars" preparations were made public in the United States, the Soviet Union not only repeatedly pointed out the extreme danger of those plans, but stressed most definitely and with utter clarity that if Washington does not abandon its hopeless attempts to acquire military superiority by transferring the arms race into space, the Soviet Union will be forced to answer in a corresponding fashion to those attempts. And it would be a rapid and less expensive answer than the U.S. program, an answer which would completely neutralize the electronic space "star wars" machine being created by the Americans. Would the Americans really feel more comfortable if Soviet weaponry were also added to the echelons of space weapons that are being planned by Washington?

However, it is appropriate to repeat this again and again, such a turn of events, if it were to happen, would be counter to the intentions of the Soviet Union. Our political choice is not to step up the material preparations for war by spiralling the arms race on earth and in space, but by force of argument, by force of example, and by force of common sense to do everything possible to alter the dangerous course of international affairs. It is precisely this that the package of new, broad-scale Soviet initiatives is aimed: The Soviet Union proceeds from the point that although the differences between the Soviet Union and the United States, between East and West are enormous, the mutual links and interdependence that we have between us are just as great and the acuteness of the current moment does not leave the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States, or the peoples of both countries, any other alternative than to grasp the great science of living together.

In a word, from whatever angle you approach it, Mr Shultz just cannot make both ends meet, when, attempting to depict black as white, he advertises SDI as somehow being to Washington's political "credit." This program -- the implementation of which, incidentally, would cost the U.S. taxpayer at least $2 trillion -- is, using the terminology of the U.S. secretary of state, not to Washington's "credit," but an obvious debit, for the accelerated preparations for the militarization of space which are continuing in the United States demonstrate again and again to the whole world that the U.S. ruling circles do not wish to give up strong-arm methods in politics and attempts to gain military superiority at any price, while their assurances that they desire a fruitful dialogue and arms control remain, up until now at any rate, nothing more than rhetoric, which is not backed up by practical deeds...

Thus, the question arises: What would those in the United States like to work toward, those who, not wishing to look at the international realities in a new way, from a stance of common sense and realism continue to stake on a nuclear-space fist? Waving such a fist has thus far led to nothing apart from a most dangerous stepping up of international tension and an increase in the threat to the security of all countries, including the United States. And one could expect nothing else from the militaristic line of preparing for "star wars," however hard Mr Shultz tries to prove the opposite...

CHERNYSHEV OUTLINES THREAT POSTED BY SDI

LD101858 Moscow TASS in English 1847 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 10 TASS -- Vladmiri Chernyshev, TASS military news analyst, writes: The Soviet Union is deeply convinced that the "star wars" program increases the threat of war, and can make it probable at a certain stage.

This is the evaluation given by Mikhail Gorbachev in his answers to the questions of the newspaper L'HUMANITE.

This danger increases because of a number of factors. First as a result of the widespread illusions of its own invulnerability and that it is possible to launch the first nuclear strike from beyond a space "shield" and to prevent or, at least, weaken a counterstrike down to an "acceptable level," a notion, which is a product of wishful thinking.

Second, in connection with the changes in the material basis of the military potential of the sides and the disappearance in this connection of the very notion of strategic stability, the turning of the present-day strategic balance into a strategic chaos.

And, third, as a result of an error or disrepair of highly sophisticated computer systems.

As a result of the deployment of space strike weapons a situation would emerge when decisions of fundamental significance and irreversible in their consequences would be taken, as a matter of fact, by electronic computers without participation of human intellect, political will, without taking into account the criteria of morality and ethics. In such a situation mankind would become hostage of machines and, consequently, of disrepair in them or of their malfunctioning. It is impossible to foretell all circumstances, which such a "star wars" system could encounter in reality, but it can be tried and checked only in the conditions, in which it is designed to function, i.e. in the conditions of war. Even the slightest failure of the system will lead to nuclear war and there will be no "going back" to repair the faulty equipment and analyze the situation.

Apart from the errors of computers themselves, war can break out simply because of solar activity blinding all pick-ups or because of false effects simulated by the northern lights. A satellite falling to pieces can be mistaken by a pick-up for an approaching nuclear warhead, and fire on a gas pipeline in the territory of the confronting side -- for the start of a ballistic missile, etc.

It is high time official Washington should realize, at long last, that it deals with weapons, which can explode the whole world, and which, even with most careful "concern" for them it will be unable to keep in check. The aspiration to "hang" strike weapons over the earth will, as former U.S. Secretary of Defence H. Brown said, lead to a nightmare, which we will turn over to our children into the 21st century. Mankind should enter that century neither without space nor without nuclear weapons, and in general, without any mass destruction weapons. [sentence as received]

ARBATOV SEES CHANCE FOR 'NORMALIZATION' OF RELATIONS

LD102304 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2120 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Interview with Georgiy Arkadyevich Arbatov, director of the United States of America and Canada Institute in Moscow by Budapest Radio correspondents Jozsef Barath and Jozsef Havel; Arbatov answers in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Havel] We are in the Moscow-based United States of America research institute. The building is the former palace of Princes Volkonskiy: Its atmosphere recalls "War and Peace" by Tolstoy. In fact we are in one of the workshops of Soviet foreign policy; its leader is Academician Georgiy Arbatov, and it is he whom we address.

[Barath] Georgiy Arkadyevich, we know that in the past year Soviet foreign policy has become active in the various regions of the world; in Europe, in Asia, in the Pacific Ocean region. Does this mean that nowadays less importance is attributed to the United States?

[Arbatov] You know, sometimes it would be very pleasant to forget about the United States, but we cannot do so because we see very well how much depends on Soviet-U.S. relations. We do not narrow down the entire world to the United States: We do not see the world through the prism of Soviet-U.S. relations. I would not say that we pay greater attention to one region at the expense of another.

Recently, Soviet foreign policy activity has increased in every direction, in the direction of the United States as well. The 15 January declaration addresses the entire world, but the first phase of disarmament affects the United States first of all.

[Havel] What is the U.S. response to the Gorbachev proposals?

[Arbatov] You know, we cannot have enough patience until the U.S. reply arrives. So far we have only heard some kind of muttering that it is interesting, that it must be studied, that it is the old content in new wrapping. Others talk about dangerous perfidiousness. Reagan himself only said that the plan is being studied. This, of course, is still better than immediate rejection, but we cannot consider all this as a reply. Of course, it is only the most naive people in the United States who can think that these proposals can be left without answer. They must be answered concretely and every single point must be given a reply. This is expected not only by us, but by international public opinion and what is more, the U.S. public opinion also.

A twin difficulty arises with the answers. First, the spirit of our proposals is in contrast to the policy of the United States in the past 5 years, that is, it demands a change. Second, our proposals mean a radical turn regarding any tradition hitherto, even in respect to existing arms limitation, because what is at issue now is the destruction of all offensive weapons.

In the past few days, I have spoken with people of goodwill who are supporting disarmament, but even they are puzzled as to how there can be a life without weapons. For what is at issue here is not only the destruction of nuclear weapons, but chemical and conventional weapons as well.

[Havel] Is the spirit of Geneva operating?

[Arbatov] Geneva has been useful, although no agreement was concluded on the most important issues. Geneva has created an atmosphere in which it was easier to come out with new initiatives.

[Barath] Is it realistic to hope that the United States will join the unilateral Soviet moratorium regarding nuclear test explosions?

[Arbatov] The Soviet proposals have brought the moment of truth: They force the other governments, that of the United States included, to nail their colors to the mast. Take the moratorium for example. When we first raised it, it was said that the Russians were not honest, they carried out more explosions than anybody else -- which, by the way, is not true -- and now they, the Russians, propose to the Americans to stop. By now, however, it is clear to everybody that it is the United States which is ahead. So one argument thus falls by the wayside. The second argument was verification, that the Russians wouldn't agree to it. Now we have said that any form of verification would suit us. The second argument has fallen. The United States is at a crossroads: Either it joins the moratorium and resumes negotiations with us on stopping nuclear experiments or openly admits that it wants to continue the arms race.

The Soviet proposals already have this much benefit at any rate; this is not propaganda, it is politics.

[Havel] Georgiy Arkadyevich, what is new in the new globalism?

[Arbatov] Its unprecedented utopianism and adventurist character.

[Havel] Adventurism existed before that too.

[Arbatov] But they have now taken into their heads that they would give their blessing to every illegal action and this is very dangerous. It is said in the Bible that he who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

[Barath] Regional conflicts, too, play a part in Soviet-U.S. relations. What is the Soviet standpoint on these?

[Arbatov] Well, in connection with every regional conflict we either have a settlement plan or there is a settlement plan with which we agree. Regarding Nicaragua, we support the plan of the Contadora Group; in Afghanistan we are trying to achieve a political settlement. This is being promoted by the fact that the Afghan Government is broadening the social basis of the revolution. Regarding the Middle East, no one has so far come up with a better idea than the 1973 proposal which recommends an international conference with the participation of all interested parties. Without the Soviet Union or the United States participating or Israel or the Palestinians taking part, this issue cannot be solved. In connection with South Africa, our standpoint is the same as the overwhelming majority of the states of the world who are on the side of settling the Namibia question and against apartheid. All the regional conflicts have several parties; the solution must be worked out jointly. The two superpowers cannot arrange this between themselves.

[Havel] A year and a half ago when I began work in Moscow, I read then in one of your articles that Soviet-U.S. relations were at a low point. How do you see this now?

[Arbatov] The situation has somewhat improved in the last year and a half. There are more visits, dialogues in the spheres of culture and air traffic. The most important problems are still unsolved, but it is important that the process has started and this process includes at least a further two summits. This is important because the very fact of a meeting compels us to think, to prepare. By the way, there is no guarantee for anything, but we have greater reason to think that in the coming years a kind of normalization can be expected in Soviet-U.S. relations. It must be seen in its historical context. Relations did not begin in the 1980's and will not end there either -- although the time factor is becoming more and more important. Every wasted year matters more and more.

[Barath] Which are those areas where, in your opinion, realistic conditions exist for an advance?

[Arbatov] It seems to me that in the end it is now time to move from declarations to deeds. The United States has announced several times that it supports nuclear disarmament, but we do not see the practical consequence of this. We have made several steps in advance. Small things, cosmetics, do not solve anything. It would be easy to reach agreement in peripheral problems, but this is not what we would like and the world does not expect this either. We must achieve agreement on the decisive issues.

[Barath] Is it, therefore, the Strategic Defense Initiative which is decisive? Is it what everything else depends on?

[Arbatov] The key question is arms limitation, first of all that of nuclear weapons. In what respect is the Strategic Defense Initiative decisive? In the sense that if the United States implements the "star wars" program then the limitation of strategic weapons is impossible if only because space weapons, in the event they are created, become a part of strategic offensive weapons. At the same time we should not link the cause of limiting medium-range nuclear missiles with the Strategic Defense Initiative. This may be done independently. We do not link with it the armed forces limitation negotiations in Vienna; these may be solved separately even today. And it is true in the case of the themes of the Stockholm Conference. Even in the area of arms limitation many things may be solved independently of the Strategic Defense Initiative. At the same time we cannot expect that the world will become safer if space militarization is implemented.

[Havel] You, as an Americanist, are observing at very close quarters the activity of Ronald Reagan. How do you assess the political profile of the U.S. President?

[Arbatov] I think the time is still to come for Reagan to give an answer to the principal question, that is, what results are to be achieved in his presidential reign. It is not the solution of economic isuses which will be decisive in this respect. The question of security is decisive for the Americans as well, that is, whether security has decreased or increased. It is on this basis that the world will judge him. I think Reagan has every opportunity to enter history as a President who achieved something to be remembered for many long years. However, there is another possibility as well. I am prepared to speak in more detail in response to your question in 2 and 1/2 years time.

POLISH ENVOY'S REMARK AT STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE CITED

LD102117 Moscow TASS in English 2051 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Stockholm, February 10 TASS -- Ambassador W. Konarski, head of the Polish delegation, stressed, addressing the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe that the Soviet Union had put forward a concrete and comprehensive program for eliminating the threat of war and ending the arms race. The answers of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the questions of the newspaper L'HUMANITE, he pointed out, are evidence of the Soviet Union's firm intention to lead things to an agreement on a realistic basis in all fields covering nuclear, outer space, chemical and conventional weapons, as well as confidence and security building measures.

In his speech the Polish representative also set forth in a generalized form the stand of the socialist countries on inviting observers to major military exercises.

SOVIET, U.S. DELEGATES COMPLETE ROUND OF TALKS

LD101131 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 10 TASS -- Delegations from the USSR and the United States to the Disarmament Conference have completed here a round of bilateral exchange of views held in line with the agreement between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan on accelerating efforts in order to conclude an effective and verifiable convention on a general and complete ban on chemical weapons and intensifying bilateral discussions at expert level on all aspects of the problem of the prohibition of chemical weapons, including verification issues.

DPA REPORTS EAST-WEST 'AGENT' EXCHANGE 11 FEB

LD111134 Hamburg DPA in German 1051 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Berlin, 11 Feb (DPA) -- The exchange of agents between East and West, which has been expected for days, was carried out today on the Glienicke Bridge in Berlin. The mutual handing over of the persons released was performed at the middle of the bridge which links West Berlin and the GDR amid worldwide media interest and with a wide area cordoned off.

The most prominent figure on the exchange list, made known on Monday, is Soviet civil rights activist Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, 37. From the Eastern side, the release of two prisoners from GDR prisons, Dietrich Niestroj and Wolf Georg Frohn, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for activity as agents for the West, was also planned. Jaroslav Javorsky, who was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment for aiding an escape, was due to be released from captivity in the CSSR. The people to be released by the West were the American couple Karl and Hana Koecher, who spied in the United States for Czechoslovakia, the Russian, Yevgeniy Zemlyakov, GDR citizen Detlef Scharfenroth, and the Pole, Jerzy Kaczmarek, who were in Federal German prisons.

The actual exchange on the bridge could not be observed from the Western side, because two parked U.S. Volkswagen buses blocked the view. The column with the Eastern agents was escorted by German and U.S. police cars. The persons were sitting in U.S. minibuses. The column also included a car with the East Berlin lawyer, Wolfgang Vogel, who played a decisive part in bringing the exchange about.

The exchange of the middle of the Glienicke Bridge began at 1045 and lasted a good 10 minutes. Then, some of the persons exchanged, evidently including the Soviet dissident Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, drove in a limousine with an American flag past the hundreds of waiting journalists in the direction of the Wannsee. They were escorted by police cars and a police transporter with bars at the windows.

Immediately after his release on Glienicke Bridge, Shcharanskiy drove to the American Tempelhof airport where he arrived at 1121. From here he is to be taken to Frankfurt.

About 30 minutes after Shcharanskiy left in the car of U.S. Ambassador Richard Burt, who welcomed Shcharanskiy on the bridge, the other persons released from the East followed. They drove in a minibus, which was escorted by American and German police cars and an ambulance.

Frankfurt 11 Feb (DPA) -- The wife of Soviet dissident Shcharanskiy arrived at Frankfurt airport on a special Israeli aircraft this (Tuesday) morning. The twin-jet executive jet of the Westwind WW24 type landed at 1128 with Mrs Shcharanskiy on board, an airport spokesman reported. Mrs Shcharanskiy has been completely shielded from the public since her arrival.

Shcharanskiy left Berlin's Tempelhof airport in an American military aircraft heading for Frankfurt at 1236. According to the police, he was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Burt. The Soviet dissident's wife arrived in Frankfurt in a special Israeli aircraft in the morning.

COMPARSION OF GORBACHEV L'HUMANITE INTERVIEW

Paris L'HUMANITE in French on 8 February carries on pages 14-17 an 8,000 word interview with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev which has been compared with the Moscow PRAVDA in Russia version published on pages CC 1-13 of the 10 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and found to be identical.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD092145 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 9 Feb 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, editor in chief of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI; Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board; and Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev, All-Union Radio commentator]

Gorbachev Interview in L'HUMANITE

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello there, comrades! On the international arena, our country proceeds from the assumption that foreign policies should be built upon realistic grounds, taking into account arrangement of forces, requirements of the time, interests of one's own people, other peoples and universal peace. That is why the Soviet Union has offered the world a radical and, at the same time, realistic alternative to nuclear war, which takes into account the interests of all peoples -- a program for tackling the problems that mankind faces. The changes in the international atmosphere which followed the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva assist our country in handling the task of elaborating new initiatives in a more resolute way. To realize the Soviet concept of security will, naturally, take a great deal of effort, labor, persistent struggle and breaking millenniums-old traditions. But the world simply cannot go on living and acting as it did; it is unthinkable to preserve human civilization while continuing the accelerating arms race and building up tension. These ideas are at present being adduced and commented upon throughout the world in discussing the replies of Comrade Gorbachev to the questions of L'HUMANITE.

[Volskiy] As well as his talk with editor Leroy.

[Gerasimov] In my view, we can discuss that part of the replies by Comrade Gorbachev that deal with the millenniums-old tradition, which should now be ruthlessly fought with and categorically denied. That is the tradition of relying on weapons and military force. Indeed, as Comrade Gorbachev stressed, it is impossible to live, or, in any case, to live long in the nuclear age having the mentality, habits and rules of behavior of the Stone Age. And such a sharp turn, as Mikhail Sergeyevich said, in international affairs, in the foreign policy vision and practice -- is it not a profoundly revolutionary task? In resolving this task we, the Soviet Union, see our greatest responsibility, our duty, in helping to handle this task.

Yes, of course, the new way of thinking is a very complicated task, and as early as in the fifties, the best intellects of our epoch -- Bertrand Russel, Albert Einstein -- called for it. At present this task has become especially relevant, because nuclear weapons have become increasingly dangerous, and now we are on the threshold of the plans for "star wars," which are going to entrust tackling of the issue of destinies of mankind to some kind of computers. I want to compare here the approach to this problem that the Soviet Union has with the approach of the United States. Recently, the President delivered his traditional State of the Union address, where he said that in order to preserve peace, the U.S. Armed Forces had to be reinforced. So, it was exactly then that the rich United States had to choose between guns and butter. The United States lives beyond its means, the President said, and that is why it is necessary to decide which expenditires must be cut: expenditures for social needs or those of the military. He has no doubts at all that it is necessary to cut expenditures for social needs, and that military spending should, on the contrary, be increased even further. What we have here is exactly an example of the old philosophy, of a purely egotistic approach to the problems of defense, if here we are going to talk about defense and not about the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism.

[Volskiy] That is, to ensure, or, in any case, to give the appearance of ensuring their security at the expense of other countries which are active in the international community.

Gorbachev Arms Proposals

[Gerasimov] It is interesting that if you take the aims of the Soviet program for nuclear disarmament and those, for example, of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative -- by which I mean the official aim of that initiative -- the aim is in fact the same: to do away with nuclear weapons. The U.S. approach, however, is a technical one. What they are saying is that we must create an anti-nuclear space shield which will protect us from nuclear weapons and thus will render them obsolete and powerless. This is certainly a crooked road to reach that end, even if it should be recognized, I repeat, that this means additional billions of dollars and that it is very doubtful from a technical point of view.

The Soviet Union offers an absolutely straight road -- that of gradual, step-by-step elimination of nuclear weapons, which is simple and clear. Apparently, what is involved here is not the official purpose of the Strategic Defense Initiative. There is some kind of different design about it, a perfidious design of, as Comrade Gorbachev described it, this surrealistic plan of delivery from the nuclear threat. Most likely, this is not a plan of delivery from the nuclear threat, but a plan pursuing other ends: preparing an aggression, exerting pressure on the Soviet Union, achieving a technological lead over the Soviet Union by the United States -- these are apparently the real plans of these U.S. "star wars" projects.

But regarding them from the view point of their purpose, what we see here is an example of the two concepts of security: the U.S. concept of security, which rests upon American technical arrogance, focusing on technology -- and the Soviet concept of ensuring equal security for all by reducing armaments and promoting disarmament, including complete elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction.

[Sobolev] A sufficient amount of time has already elapsed since Comrade Gorbachev put forward the wide-scale Soviet program of complete nuclear and chemical disarmament. One can say that the forces approving of and supporting the Soviet program, which are even prepared to undertake practical action to realize it, as, for example, Dante Caputo, the Argentine minister of foreign relations, put it, has shaped itself. This front includes not only progressive public organizations, left parties and associations of peace advocates, the Soviet disarmament program is being welcomed by practically all nonaligned countries headed by India, governments of neutral countries such as Austria, Finland and Sweden, for example, and even of a NATO member-country, that is Greece. It appears that it is about time that those immediately concerned with the Soviet proposals on disarmament should make themselves clear on the subject. However, there is no reply yet.

[Gerasimov] In any case, the Soviet program has certainly caused an abrupt change in international relations.

[Sobolev] Yes.

[Gerasimov] This was particularly mentioned by Senator Edward Kennedy, who visited Moscow recently. He put it this way: Lately, one often felt that we were living through a prolonged winter of our discontent in the field of arms control, and also in the field of other problems that divide us. Now, we feel as if the spring of hope is setting in at last.

[Sobolev] One can even say that the Soviet disarmament program is already working for the benefit of peace, for the benefit of improving international relations and resolving some kind of specific problems. Let us say, for instance, problems of confidence at the Stockholm conference, or the problems concerning reduction of conventional armed forces and armaments which are being discussed at the Vienna talks. All correspondents, all observers, who are present there, note that the atmosphere has changed for the better. Participants in these talks and forums are displaying a more realistic approach to discussion of the issues on the agenda there. As far as the United States is concerned, there was a brief mention that delegations have been sent off, headed by representatives of the President. Their purpose is ostensibly to coordinate the U.S. analysis of the statement by Comrade Gorbachev, and the analysis which is currently being made in Western Europe.

[Gerasimov] There is nothing wrong with that, if there would be a joint answer, should it be a good answer, supporting the Soviet proposals.

[Sobolev] Yes, but unfortunately, in an important governmental document of the United States, for example such as the President's State of the Union address, there is not a single word mentioning the Soviet disarmament program.

[Volskiy] Just a moment ago, when we were talking about the fact that the political atmosphere in the world was improving, one can see there are signs of an opposite process as well; that is, the forces intending to poison the international atmosphere have again become more active. Again, in a number of countries one can observe some increase in anti-Soviet phenomena.

Take France for example. We are in favor of good relations with France; our relations with France are good, and have traditionally been so. In France at the moment we observe a certain increasing wave of anti-Sovietism. Or take the United States: ABC, for instance, has decided to make a television series on what America would be like under Soviet occupation. A provocative venture, indeed, and a venture undertaken by the entertainment programs department.

[Sobolev] This series will appear day after day, and every evening Americans will see how nasty the Soviet people are.

[Volskiy] Well, there is entertainment and then there is entertainment. In the case at issue it is political hooliganism, because even if the Americans who watch this nonsense think it is entertainment, something will nevertheless remain in their minds to the effect that there is, it turns out, a certain probability that the United States will be occupied.

[Sobolev] Yes, and they will get the wrong impression about Soviet people.

[Gerasimov] One which was created long ago, and this is slung in to reinforce it.

[Volskiy] Now, of course, all these tendencies precisely in France and in the United States -- and one could obviously find examples in other countries, too -- show just how hard it is for common sense to find its way through in international relations.

State of the Union Address

[Gerasimov] In general, the State of the Union address which U.S. presidents deliver at the beginning of the year is quite an interesting, specifically American genre of political rhetoric.

Even though these messages are regular, and on the whole routine, those who write them strive at all times to adopt such a high tone, an exceptionally high tone, presenting the current moment as unique and unrepeatable. For example, this time the President announced that the United States had started to move, as though it had been standing still up to now. And if it has started moving in some particular sense, why right now? Reagan, after all, has been President for the last 5 years.

But anyway, no one takes this rhetoric seriously. One should nevertheless treat the address itself seriously, because, of course, behind the splendid phrases lie certain arguments which allow one to perceive the Americans' political intentions.

[Sobolev] It should be said that U.S. observers nevertheless regard such documents ironically, on the grounds that they are bound to contain official optimism. Gerald Ford once very nearly tried to say that the state of affairs in the country was bad, and he rapidly lost his presidential chair. Traditionally, therefore, every president always talks optimistically and only about the good things, trying to circumvent all difficulties, so to speak, all problems and unpleasant aspects of American life, of which there are more than enough.

[Volskiy] That's true. But one cannot pass over all the difficulties. One can, therefore, always trace behind this rhetoric certain topics of concern to Americans. Take the address in question. To summarize its contents briefly, one can do that literally in a few phrases: First, the United States is living beyond its means; the government spends more than the treasury receives. Second, in order to live within one's means, government expenditure must be cut. But military spending must in no way be cut: the Russians would take that as a manifestation of weakness, whereas they must believe the Americans to be strong.

[Sobolev] It is not just a matter of cutting spending, but of increasing expenditure.

[Volskiy] Yes, Reagan is calling for an additional increase in U.S. military spending.

[Sobolev] This is quite at variance with both the spirit of Geneva and, in general, with the current mood reigning in the world.

[Volskiy] In all, the old plan of guns instead of butter. Even wealthy America cannot have both at once. The President is making a clear choice here: he is opting for guns. What is more, the address makes no mention -- the failure to mention this is particularly striking -- of either the Soviet proposals on the program for eliminating nuclear weapons, or of the Soviet-U.S. Geneva accord to strive to prevent an arms race in space and to halt it on earth.

The address is the quintessence of capitalist ideology, because in it the President harshly criticizes what he described as the cult of welfare dependency. He declares the poverty action program to be a senseless waste of dollars and cents.

[Sobolev] Well, on the whole, when he comes out against charity, perhaps he is in fact right, for charity does indeed degrade and depress people. On the other hand, however, what are the literally millions of homeless, unemployed and hungry to do if those programs are stopped? Dozens of these programs are being stopped, so what are those people to do, for ...

[Volskiy, interrupting] They are themselves to blame. The President's philosophy here is interesting.

What is more, it appeals to many people in America. What sort of philosophy is it? Let the unsuccessful weep. Many Americans who are successful are sympathetic to the President's arguments, for these arguments put them in a favorable light as those who can stand up for themselves. This flatters their self esteem. As a result, the essence of the matter is distorted; namely, that there are no equal opportunities in the United States for the poor and the rich, for the blacks and the whites. For instance, many young blacks want to work in the towns and there is no work. They want to study and there is no money for studies.

[Sobolev] It is interesting that no one would ever object to some of the President's phrases if they were taken out of the context of the address. For example, President Reagan expresses his sympathy with freedom fighters suffering behind the walls of repressive regimes. But who does the President of the United States have in mind here? He is expressing his sympathy with Afghan dushmans, the Khmer reactionaries, that is, with all Pol Pot's rabble, with the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and the mercenaries serving the RSA racists and the United States in Angola, the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bands.

Savimbi Visit to U.S.

[Gerasimov] Yes, indeed. Savimbi, the leader of the Angolan UNITA terrorists, has just paid a visit to the United States. This was an altogether unprecedented visit.

[Volskiy] At summit level, he was received there by ...

[Gerasimov, interrupting] He was received by Reagan himself; he was received at the State Department, and even, if I am not mistaken, at the CIA as well.

[Volskiy] He was received in the Defense Department, too, by the heads of ...

[Gerasimov, interrupting] And he was not just received, but was promised quite big allocations, and official ones at that, in addition to the secret money he gets through CIA and other channels used by U.S. special services.

[Sobolev] Before it was said that he received through these channels about $15 million a year; now the sum involved is $300 million.

[Gerasimov] Yes.

[Sobolev] And Savimbi himself said in public: Give me more money, because I am the sole protector of your interests in southern Africa.

[Gerasimov] It seems to me that this visit was no isolated event in U.S. political life; no isolated event because they have similar contacts with the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. There are the dushmans too, who are sent from Afghanistan and who have been received on more than one occasion, I believe, by the President himself, not to mention the fact that large amounts of money and weapons and so forth are given to them. That is, if we follow U.S. policy over the issue of support for counterrevolutionary rebellions, uprisings — call them what you like — in developing countries, we can detect a certain logic, which consists in undermining and promoting the elimination of the progressive regimes in states in Asia, Africa and Latin America. It is interesting here that this is done in the most key points in these developing continents.

Take Central America, for instance. This is, in general, the only land passage, a bridge so to speak, between the United States and the South American continent. That is, a way for the development, so to speak, of U.S. expansion southward. So they are clearing this path, so to speak, with the help of support from the Duarte regime in El Salvador, for example, by means of interference in the affairs of Nicaragua and by sending those same counterrevolutionaries there.

Situation in Haiti

The same thing, in general, applies to Haiti. Haiti is to a certain degree a bridgehead which can potentially be relied upon for actions against South America and even the Central American sector. This is why such a lot of attention is being given to saving the pro-imperialist regime there.

[Sobolev] At a press conference recently U.S. journalists asked Secretary of State Shultz to explain the U.S. position in regard to events in Haiti. The secretary of state replied to the effect that the United States can only be an outside observer, as has always been the case, in accordance with the noble traditions of U.S. foreign policy. One's conscience starts to twitch even to hear such words, frankly. It is the U.S. Embassy in Haiti that is now organizing a change of power which will enable the United States to maintain control of that country. The head of the U.S. diplomatic service is unlikely to be unaware of this, or of the fact that this very sort of operation carries on the traditional U.S. policy in regard to Haiti. In 1915, when the United States occupied Haiti, the commander of the occupying troops and fleet, Admiral Caperton, who became a sort of dictator and governor general, declared: The main aim of my governorship consists in strengthening Haiti's independence. The phraseology, incidentally, is very similar. So, this Caperton, having looked into the matter, ordered Dartiguenave, the president of the Haiti Senate, and a former minister (Bobo) to be brought under guard, and said to them: Gentlemen, it looks as though one of you will be elected president of Haiti. Well now, the admiral, of course, knew what he was saying. Dartinguenave was indeed elected president, since he -- I cite U.S. sources -- showed himself to be a flexible man.

He turned out to be so flexible that he signed without a murmur the text of the constitution which had been drawn up for him by officials of the U.S. Navy Department, who included in it the right by a foreign country, that is, the United States, to interfere in the country's affairs. The parliament, which decided to initiate a discussion on the constitution, was dissolved. And dictator Duvalier, whom the Americans put in power in Haiti 30 or so years ago, was also first checked out for flexibility. Up until 1934 he served in a medical unit of the occupation forces in Haiti, when he was sent for training in the United States, served in the U.S. Navy, and then in the U.S. mission to Haiti. The mission was supposed to be engaged in health care, but it had no success whatever in that area -- as can be seen now in that much-suffering country -- because it had other, more important tasks: it selected the leaders for this U.S. protectorate. What the country was brought to by 30 years of rule by the Duvalier dynasty is unfortunately a long and sorry story. The country is the poorest in the Western hemisphere and one of the fourth poorest in the world.

[Gerasimov] Batista in Cuba; Somosa -- our son-of-a-bitch, as one U.S. President called him -- and his dynasty in Nicaragua; the Duvalier dynasty in Haiti....

[Sobolev] Also, incidentally, the Stroessner dynasty in Paraguay, where his relatives will be assuming power from the current dictator. All these countries under dictatorships are the very poorest ones. In Haiti the majority of the population is living on an annual income of $60. But it would be wrong to blame only Duvalier for this. Almost everything in Haiti belongs to U.S. capital, and it always takes care of itself.

So the conflict in that country -- despite the ferocity of the secret police, who used to be called the Tontons Macoutes, the werewolves, which was a very clever device by the dictator to use a religion of African origin, voodoo, to keep the population in terror, although the Tontons Macoutes did use very real instruments such as pistols and submachine guns -- despite the actions of the Tontons Macoutes, the conflict in Haiti had to transpire, and as you can see now it is developing.

[Gerasimov] And what will happen next?

[Sobolev] In 1915 the United States occupied Haiti, and I am quoting an official document, "in order to forestall any attempt by another country to get a foothold on the American Continent." The Soviet Union at that time, of course, did not exist. In 1965 on the same island of Haiti, but in another country, the Dominican Republic, the United States carried out yet another intervention with the accompaniment of the same old phrases. Now it is thought, in fact by the Western press and Western observers, that another direct U.S. armed intervention is extremely likely, this time in Haiti if the course of events there is not to their liking.

[Gerasimov] L'HUMANITE published an interview with Rene Theodore, the secretary general of the Central Committee of the United Party of Haitian Communists. What he said was that the Communists of Haiti are in favor of setting up a united front of all democratic forces. Here the Communists attach particular importance to the work of the people's committees, underground organizations that operate in all towns throughout the country. But we will see when everything is set up.

Libyan Plane Interception

[Volskiy] Yes, U.S. combat vessels are currently on permanent guard off the shores of Haiti, and it is a far from innocuous guard duty, so to speak. If we recall the U.S. invasion of Grenada, at that time a squadron of U.S. ships was sailing in the Atlantic and no one knew which direction it would turn -- maybe Lebanon, or maybe somewhere else. Yet, it turned toward Grenada where it carried out the intervention that we all know about. The tactics of such intervention from the sea in a regional situation has not in fact changed. The U.S. Navy is now carrying out new maneuvers, or at least is intending to carry out new maneuvers off the shores of Libya. What is interesting is that it was announced in advance, before the new maneuvers, that the U.S. Navy, or aircraft from carriers, intended to violate Libyan territorial waters. So they're already preparing some sort of provocation in advance. Just recently there was the unprecedented case of a piratical attack by Israeli aircraft on a Libyan passenger aircraft flying from Tripoli to Damascus in which there were extremely high-ranking Syrian officials, including the assistant secretary of the regional command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

[Gerasimov] What they said was that they were looking for terrorists, so the Israeli intelligence service made a big mess of it...

[Volskiy] In any case it's just banditry.

[Gerasimov] But that was no justification. Instead they exposed themselves for what they were.

[Sobolev] So, what happened was that they simply seized the wrong aircraft. In principle they are ready to go on seizing aircraft.

[Gerasimov] The Mediterranean used to be known as a place of piracy at sea; now it has become a place of piracy in the air.

[Sobolev] Not only in the air, I think. Israel here is following the example of its older brother, so to speak -- the United States -- thinking that from its own point of view it can do what it likes, disregarding international laws and norms and the security of other people.

[Volskiy] I wonder in fact why precisely now they had to carry out these acts -- I mean the threatening U.S. maneuvers off Libya and this provocation with the aircraft which, as the TASS statement notes quite rightly, whips up tension in the Mediterranean -- and whether this is being done accidentally or deliberately. I think that here there is a large element of the deliberate whipping up of tension, of creating an atmosphere of military threat, which is being done for quite perceptible reasons. The Americans and the Israelis have recently suffered a number of very striking political defeats in the Near East. By this I mean the fact that they did not manage to foist a capitulatory agreement of the Camp David type on Lebanon; the agreement was foisted upon it, but was later rejected. The U.S. troops which formed part of the UN multinational forces, and the multinational forces themselves, left Lebanon. Then the Israeli army was forced to evacuate the greater part of the lands they had seized. So, coming up against all these things, the United States, together with Israel, with whom they have signed an official agreement on strategic cooperation, need to try to break this, for them, negative trend by using strongarm methods to threaten the Arabs and force them, under this threat of force, to accept capitulatory deals. But these methods, I must say, are not new, and not only that, in this case I do not think they are effective.

For example, I recently had occasion to be in Damascus, and the Syrian leaders in particular are extremely optimistic, I would say, about the prospects for the situation in the Near East, and are of the opinion that the trend there is taking shape in favor of a just political settlement of the conflict.

Cuban Party Congress

[Sobolev] Dmitriy Antonovich, we are of the opinion, and this was expressed in the statement by Comrade Gorbachev, that regional conflicts must be solved by collective efforts on a just and equal basis. But at the same time, regional conflicts must not be an obstacle to solving overall security problems. Socialist Cuba is also the subject of constant threats from the United States, so questions of security and sovereignty are of primary importance for our Cuban comrades. There was discussion of this at the 3d Congress of the Cuban Communist Party, which took place this week.

The congress was an important event in itself, but it acquires particular significance in light of the fact that it will soon be followed by congresses of the other fraternal parties which are to solve extremely important questions of a political, economic and social nature. The whole socialist community is faced, albeit to differing degrees, with the need for a sharp turn toward improving efficiency and quality and intensifying production, and it must be said that our joint comprehensive program up to the year 2000 should help all the fraternal countries to solve that problem. Cuba occupies a special place in the socialist community: it is situated, as the Latin Americans say, right by the beard of Uncle Sam, one of whose teeth has bitten right into Cuban territory in the form of the U.S. base at Guantanamo. And defense, as we know, is not cheap.

I would like to compare the situation in Cuba, however, with what is happening in the other Latin American countries. For all of the past 5 years in Latin America, production has been virtually at the same level. In per capita terms it has even fallen considerably down to the 1977 level, which was 9 percent less than the 1980 level. In Cuba, however, the annual growth rate in gross national product over the past 5 years was more than 7 percent. The social picture in Cuba is completely different, too.

There is no illiteracy, no unemployment, and there is an enormous amount of housing construction going on which no other Latin American country can match. Yet housing, health care and education also take a great deal of money from the production sphere.

Latin America is groaning under the burden of foreign debt. As a result of unjust international economic relations, the Western partners of the Latin Americans take away all they have. As far as Cuba is concerned, the majority of its foreign trade -- approximately 85 percent -- is with the socialist countries. It also has foreign debt in Western currency, but a comparatively small amount, and the Cubans are coping with this burden without any particular losses. I think that drawing this parallel between Cuba and its neighbors is extremely indicative. But I would like to note that at the Communist Party congress, the Cubans did not focus attention on their own achievements, but on their failures: the shortages, the errors, problems and tasks for the future. It is just such a businesslike atmosphere that is needed for those tasks to be fulfilled. Here we will end our program. Thank you for listening, and goodbye!

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

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[International Situation: Questions and Answers" program, conducted by Sergey Pravdin, All-Union Radio foreign political commentator; with "international affairs journalist" Anatoliy Krasikov and A.V. Mikhaylov, USSR representative at the Vienna MBFR talks]

Gorbachev Arms Proposal

[Excerpts] [Pravdin] Our editorial office continues to receive letters whose authors declare their support for the new comprehensive peace proposals set out in the statement of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. They criticize the policy of the present Washington administration, aimed at continuing the arms race, transferring it into space, and raising world tension. On this subject we have letters from Comrades Volkov, in the town of Chekalin in Tula Oblast; Alekseyev, in Khabarovsk; Shcherbatenko, in the town of Andropov; Urbaniyazov, in Ashkhabad; Abaluyev, in Chita; Bogatyr, in the settlement of Drabov in Cherkassy Oblast; Feldman, in Moscow, and others. Comrade Gorbachev's statement continues to evoke the broadest response abroad too. I now want to turn to Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS deputy director general, who will talk about some aspects of the Soviet peace program and the world public's reaction to it. Please.

[Krasikov] It must be said that leftwing and democratic circles unreservedly support our program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Moreover, they immediately observed that the program stemmed directly from the general course of our country's policies, and from the spirit and letter of the documents that had been prepared for the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress. Rightwingers and members of the far-right, on the contrary, do not want to hear about any kind of agreement with our country. There are also those who have not made up their minds, of course. Incidentally, opinions are divided among governments as well. The socialist states are with us, needless to say, since it is our common, coordinated policy. The young developing states have also, in the main, declared themselves in favor. Some, admittedly, remain silent. In the West too, many are inclined to support our ideas. Moreover, even those who openly take their cue from Washington are not saying no. They say that everything has to be weighed and studied, and only then can some final conclusion be drawn.

This week, Reagan sent two of his highly-placed officials abroad. Paul Nitze flew to Europe, and Edward Rowny to Asia. They have to consult with U.S. allies, even though within the Reagan administration itself opinions are also divided. If one believes THE NEW YORK TIMES, for instance, consideration is being given at the same time to three completely different versions of a reply to our proposals. On Tuesday, our foreign minister, Comrade Shevardnadze, spoke to the U.S. ambassador in Moscow, and told him directly: We hope that the U.S. side will not delay giving a reply to proposals which provide a way out of the nuclear impasse. And if, while there is still time, the United States joins in our extended moratorium on all nuclear explosions, a major step will have been taken toward accomplishing the task of nuclear disarmament. However -- and this must not be forgotten -- the new Soviet proposals are addressed not only to the official authorities of the United States and other Western states; they are addressed to all who cherish the cause of world peace, to all people of good will, to all peoples.

[Pravdin] You mentioned the moratorium on nuclear explosions, declared by the Soviet Union, but during this time the U.S. is continuing these explosions and improving their nuclear weapons. Some listeners ask: Is that not detrimental to our security?

[Krasikov] Last August, when the Soviet Union introduced a unilateral moratorium on all kinds of nuclear explosions, we proceeded from the wish to put an end to the creation [sozdaniye] of new, and the improvement [sovershenstvovaniye] of existing, kinds of nuclear weapons. It goes without saying that the Government of the USSR did not have the slightest intention of leaving our country unarmed in the face of the constant build-up of armaments in the West. We wanted to demonstrate that we were prepared, in deed as well as in word, to erect a barrier across the path toward rearmament. And, of course, we expected that the United States and the other nuclear powers would follow our example.

Last year, the leaders of six states on different continents -- Argentina, Greece, Mexico, India, Tanzania and Sweden -- produced a joint appeal to us and to the United States. They called on us to agree on a mutual cessation of nuclear explosions. Recalling that appeal -- it was supported by the peace movement and broad sections of the public in all countries -- we found it possible to give the United States additional time. Why? So that they could think the matter over and join in our initiative. However, the U.S. stubbornly maintained that this was not enough, and that the USSR might deceive them. So we decided to go even further and suggested that we agree on some additional on-site monitoring measures so as to eliminate any possible doubts in the observance of the moratorium. Incidentally, we said we were in favor of establishing strict verification of the destruction of stockpiles of chemical weapons, which, as our country believes, could be completely eliminated, just like nuclear weapons, by the year 2000.

[Pravdin] What about the "star wars" issue?

[Krasikov] Here, too, the position of the leaders of the six countries that I have already named, the position of the leaders of the Palme Commission, and our own fully coincide. In fact, on this issue the agreement is even broader than on the issue of stopping nuclear tests. Many Western powers, including France, for instance, have come out openly, indeed officially, against the use of space for military purposes. When Reagan was trying to justify his "star wars" project -- he calls it the Strategic Defense Initiative -- we heard quite a few reassuring words. Firstly, it was claimed to be a matter of purely defensive weapons, and, secondly, we were assured -- and they continue to assure us -- that the creation [sozdaniye] of military systems in space will be of great benefit to all mankind because, as they put it, it will make nuclear missile systems unnecessary. However, after the Soviet Union had put forward its program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, many people in the West began to ask: Why create [sozdavat] expensive military systems in space if it is possible to get rid of nuclear weapons without them, moreover, in a far cheaper and more reliable way?

[Pravdin] How did the U.S. Government react to that question?

[Krasikov] It didn't. It pretended that no one had asked any such question. One after another, highly-placed U.S. officials declare that there can be no question of abandoning the Strategic Defense Initiative.

[Pravdin] Anatoliy Andreyevich, some of our listeners are enquiring whether the U.S. has started to have any nagging doubts on this question after the recent disaster with the Challenger space vessel.

[Krasikov] Well, how shall I put it? Doubts have appeared. I could cite the opinion of Grossman, a professor at New York State University, a well-known specialist on space problems. I have brought the relevant passage with me. I will read it: The Challenger disaster has shown the vast danger to mankind inherent in the "star wars" program put forward by the Reagan administration. The scientist continues: Representatives of the U.S. Government have frequently made statements, including statements to me personally, that the likelihood of any accident happening to a shuttle spacecraft is practically nil. However, from the example of the Challenger tragedy we have been convinced that this is not so, and that if anything similar happens during the implementation of the Strategic Defense Initiative then the consequences will be much more tragic.

[Pravdin] What can be said about the European aspect of our proposals?

[Krasikov] Commenting on the new Soviet initiatives, foreign observers pay particular attention to the proposals aimed at altering and improving the situation in Europe. There is detailed discussion of these initiatives taking place at several international forums. I refer primarily to the conference on confidence-building, security and disarmament measures which, as we know, is underway in Stockholm, and to the Vienna MBFR talks.

The program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons in three stages by the year 2000, with the banning -- I stress, with the banning, of space strike weapons -- has struck the imagination of the West Europeans. It has struck them not just with the scale of the aims involved but with the fact that it gives Western Europe the opportunity to make an independent contribution to the cause of disarmament. How does this program differ from our previous proposals? If one is to speak of that part of it which is of direct concern to Europe, then the main difference is that we are agreeing to discuss the question of Britain's and France's nuclear missile weapons separately from the question of U.S. medium-range weapons. This takes into consideration the positions of the two West European nuclear powers which, as we know, have always categorically refused even to allow any reference to be made to their weapons, even in the sense of referring to their numbers because, they say, they do not have any representative weapons there.

Now, in accordance with the program set out by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev -- in the first stage, at the same time as the steep reduction, the halving, of the USSR's and U.S. strategic weapons -- the Soviet U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone would be subjected to total elimination. Neither the British nor the French nuclear weapons would be put onto the Soviet-U.S. register, so to speak, at that stage.

[Pravdin] Some Western observers have made use of this circumstance to assert that the USSR was accepting Reagan's notorious Zero Option.

[Krasikov] In fact, everything is quite different. The U.S. Zero Option required us to eliminate medium-range missiles not only in the European part but also in the Asian part of the country, where they counter corresponding U.S. weapons.

However, we propose that the question of missiles in Asia should be discussed within the framework of a global solution involving all nuclear powers. We are not refusing to eliminate them, but let the other nuclear powers also eliminate their weapons of this type in Asia.

Further, Reagan's Zero Option proceeded from the basis that the nuclear missile weapons of the two NATO allies of the United States could be retained and improved and infinitum. However, we want the United States to undertake the obligation not to supply strategic missiles and medium-range missiles to other countries, and at the same time we want Britain and France to undertake not to increase their nuclear weapons. In accordance with our plan, the reduction of Britain's and France's nuclear arsenals would start in the second stage, and would begin with the elimination of tactical weapons. Then, in the final, third stage, simultaneously with the total elimination of the USSR's and U.S. nuclear arsenals, the nuclear weapons of all states that possess them would also be totally eliminated.

Well, of course, such a question cannot be decided without the participation of everyone concerned. And, by the way, even before this we were ready to discuss this with Britain and France, but these countries declared that they would not enter into discussions on these questions with us until the nuclear potential of the USSR and the United States had been subjected to a considerable reduction. Our new proposals remove this proviso, since we are proposing to halve our nuclear potential in the first stage. Under these conditions a refusal to enter into talks could come only from people who simply talk about disarmament, talk about their agreement to end the arms race, but who in reality are striving for just the opposite. I am sure that the value of the new Soviet initiatives, apart from anything else, lies precisely in the fact that from now on all nuclear powers, including the United States, Britain and France, must openly make the choice between peace and continuing the arms race.

Progress at MBFR Talks

[Pravdin] Our regular listeners from Moscow, Nikolay Mikhaylovich Devyatkin and the Rudnev family, and also Comrades Vlasenko from Sverdlovsk, Khachaturyan from Yerevan, Yevgeniya Yevgeniyevna Kiriyevskaya from Tula Oblast, ask how the Vienna MBFR talks are progressing, and about the peace proposals of the USSR and the other countries of the Warsaw Pact introduced at this forum. Esteemed comrades, Averyan Vladimirovich Mikhaylov, the USSR's representative at these talks, replies to your questions.

[Mikhaylov] Last February, the USSR and the countries of the Warsaw Pact proposed to their partners in the talks to seek an accord by which the USSR and the United States would partially reduce their armed forces, say by 20,000 for the USSR and 13,000 for the United States, together with their corresponding armaments and military equipment with a subsequent freezing of the level of the armed forces and armaments both of the NATO countries and the countries of the Warsaw Pact in this region. We also envisaged appropriate measures to monitor the fulfillment of such an agreement.

It must be said that the Western side remained silent for 10 months, giving as the reason for this that they were studying our proposal. Finally, on 5 December of last year, the Western side put forward their counterproposals on this question. The West, in principle, seemed to agree to the ideas that we put forward for an initial reduction of Soviet and U.S. troops in conjunction with no subsequent increase in the level of the armed forces of the NATO countries and the Warsaw Pact countries in central Europe.

It would seem that the general direction of further talks and certain outlines for a possible accord are now coming into view.

I would say that this confirmed the appropriateness and constructive nature of the proposal made by the socialist countries last February. It has made it possible to overcome the impasse that our talks had reached. It is to be hoped that the appearance of coinciding elements in the present positions of the sides will make the further discussion of questions at our talks more purposeful and more meaningful, and will make the search for mutually acceptable solutions more realistic.

However, one cannot fail to make note of the fact that the Western proposals continue to be biased and unbalanced on a whole range of aspects and, I would say, are unrealistic and not in accord with the principle of not damaging the security of the sides -- a principle which was agreed upon at the start of the talks.

Thus, the positions of the sides are still fairly far apart. Nonetheless, we believe that it is still possible to reach agreement in Vienna both on the essence of the initial agreement and on measures for adequate monitoring of its fulfillment. One thing, however, is required for this: Mutual display of political realism and readiness to seek compromise decisions which do not damage either of the sides. For our part we have displayed this readiness; now let our partners display it, too.

ANZUS Pact

[Pravdin] Our regular listeners, the Smyurdze family from Kaluga, ask us to tell them about New Zealand, and the reason for the current serious conflict between that country and the United States.

The Labor Party of New Zealand came to power in the country after the elections in July 1984. The leader of that party, Lange, is now prime minister. It was also after these elections that the conflict with the United States began, the problem our listeners are asking about. One of the points, indeed the main point, of the Labor Party's election program was the promise to ban foreign ships fitted with nuclear engines or carrying nuclear weapons from calling at New Zealand ports.

It must be said that Lange is by no means an enemy of the United States, as certain sections of the U.S. press try to present him. He has frequently stressed that the government he heads is simply striving to implement the promise he made to the electorates. However, Washington immediately regarded New Zealand's decision as an attempt to undermine U.S.-New Zealand relations and also the so-called Pacific Ocean security pact -- ANZUS in abbreviated form -- which includes Australia, as well as these two countries. This year ANZUS was to have marked its 25th anniversary, but one hears more funeral than celebratory music in Washington about this bloc. The point is that in spite of strong pressure from the United States -- diplomatic, political, economic, and so forth -- the Lange government has not altered its decision. Moreover, it has taken steps to include it in legislation. The appropriate bill has been introduced for parliamentary discussion. However, the United States has not given up its crude attempts to dictate its will to this independent country. A group of U.S. congressmen recently declared that it was necessary to end New Zealand's membership in the ANZUS bloc and to deprive it of the so-called U.S. nuclear umbrella.

But this is not intimidating the New Zealanders: Two thirds of the population now live in towns and villages which have declared themselves to be nuclear-free zones. The bill drawn up by the Lange government envisages the declaration of a nuclear-free zone for all the country, its territorial waters and airspace. Thus, New Zealand is striving to make its contribution to the implementation of the treaty on declaring the southern part of the Pacific Ocean a nuclear-free zone. This document was signed last August by 13 states of this region, including New Zealand. As Prime Minister Lange stated recently in an interview with the U.S. newspaper NEWSDAY, New Zealand intends to dissociate itself from any nuclear strategy.

REPORTS ON CHALLENGER EXPLOSION, INVESTIGATION

Commission Demands Documents

LD101451 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladislav Legantsov reports:

William R. Rogers, former U.S. secretary of state, and now chairman of the special presidential commission on the space shuttle Challenger accident, has demanded that the leadership of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant him all documents having to do with the report that the accident could be caused by the unservicable system for the hermetic sealing of the sections of solid fuel boosters. As the CBS Television company said, the commission will study these documents at a special session behind closed doors today. On Tuesday it is planned to hold a session on the same issue open to the public.

THE NEW YORK TIMES was the first to report that the hermetic sealing was unreliable. Then the report was confirmed by other publications. The newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST pointed out quoting NASA officials that the most vulnerable spot in the sections of solid fuel boosters could be special hermetic seals, which are rings of special rubber with a diametre of 3.7 metres. The seals as the newspaper said, were damaged at least 12 time in the preceding flights of the shuttle spaceships.

The AP agency points out in its latest reports on the investigation into the accident that the Challenger exploded after the envelope of the section of solid fuel boosters broke in the place of sealing or in the seal itself. The flame spewing from the rupture probably ignited the fuel tank of the space shuttle.

Next Three Launches Postponed

LD110826 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 11 TASS -- AP reports that the next three planned missions of shuttle spaceships have been postponed because of the Challenger disaster. The launching of Columbia, scheduled for next March, has been delayed at least to late Autumn this year. The launching of two ships in May to put into orbit the Galileo automatic probe to study Jupiter and an automatic interplenatary probe to explore the solar poles have been put off by 13 months.

Engineer Reflects on Disaster

PM101611 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 p 4

[Article by Yu. Markov, space devices test engineer, under the rubric "Expert Opinion": "Death of the Challenger : An Engineer's Reflection on the Disaster to the Spaceship Challenger "]

[Text] "... One of the two solid fuel boosters exploded." "The explosion was the consequence of the uncontrolled mixing of liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen... The cause of the explosion could have been the failure of a turbine in the main engine, with a tiny fragment of metal finding its way into the main fuel tank..."

"The disaster took place in the 75th second after the launch, moments after the commander began to throttle up the engines..." "For the first 2 minutes after the launch, the astronauts can do nothing, because they are 'pressed' into their seats, and operations are carried out by the on-board computer..."

"A flame burst from the /NOSE CONE/ of one of the boosters..." "A tongue of flame appeared in the /LOWER SECTION/ of the body of the right-hand booster just above the nozzle..." [uppercase passages between slantlines are printed in boldface]

How many contradictory, mutually exclusive versions we have heard, read, and seen concerning the destruction of the space shuttle Challenger ["Brosayushchiy Vyzov"] -- that is the translation of the name of the second ship under the space shuttle program.

I am not suggesting that the American astronauts and experts, commentators, and journalists whose versions we have cited were deliberately misleading the public: It was simply a very complex and rapid process which led to the Challenger accident. I believe that as a result of careful analysis of video and telemeter tapes, modeling of the process, and attempts at least partially to reproduce it with technological devices, American engineers will be able to understand the cause of the disaster and make the necessary material modification. However, another possibility is not excluded: A single, 100-percent cause, so to speak, will not be established, and the conclusion will be: "The most likely causes of the explosion were...," and then experts will elaborate measures to eliminate the "likely causes," and the ships will fly again...

I would like to point out one serious psychological aspect which accompanies investigations of this kind and seriously complicates them. Who knows the subtleties of his system's operation best? Of course, the expert, the designer, the tester. But it can be very difficult for him, realizing that the cause of a failure could be isolated and accidental, to acknowledge that his firm is to blame. The news has come in that a presidential commission has been set up to investigate the causes of the disaster, and that it includes Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon. Yes, the ships will fly again. And an accident with precisely the same cause is unlikely to happen again. But another accident could happen, and its consequences will be equally sad. Why such pessimism, you may ask? No, it is not pessimism, it is looking at things realistically. Let us take a brief look at the shuttle's design.

Standing vertically on the launchpad is a huge "cigar" nearly 50 meters long and 9 meters in diameter (red, on the television screen). That is the fuel tank for the spaceship's engines, consisting of two compartments and filled with five-sixths fuel -- liquid hydrogen -- and one-sixth oxidizer -- liquid oxygen. Attached to the tank are two "sharpened pencils" -- the solid fuel boosters. The solid fuel is a mixture of 70 percent aluminum perchlorate, 16 percent powdered aluminum, and 12 percent synthetic rubber, complex in structure, as well as a couple of percent of other components. Also "stuck" to the tank is the orbiter -- the space glider itself. It is incorrect to call it a spacecraft -- it cannot fly, it can only glide. The mass of this whole system on launching is...2,000 tons. The mass of the rocket fuels accounts for more than 1,700 tons of this. That is 1,700 tons of "explosive"! And what explosive! The entire art and skill of the designer, the engineer, and the worker are channeled into preventing it from exploding. I am confident that by the 21st century people will go into space by other means, rather than riding an a "fire-breathing dragon."

Let us observe a normal shuttle flight. During the launch, all the engines are switched on at once -- the boosters and the ship's own engines. At an altitude of approximately 40 km the boosters detach themselves (they then drop into the ocean on three parachutes and are towed back to the launch complex; after repair and refuelling, they are used again -- up to 20 times). When suborbital velocity is reached, on the very "frontier" of space, when the fuel has burned out the fuel tank is discarded (on the way back to earth, it breaks up in the dense strata of the atmosphere). The "bird" carrying the crew is guided into orbit -- or rather, the last part of the way into orbit -- by means of small liquid fuel maneuvering rocket engines.

After doing its work in space, the space glider descends from orbit and glides into land on a runway. All clear and simple, it would appear. But what dangers lie in wait for the cosmonauts!

Of course, questions of the crew's safety are carefully considered. Of course, various systems are designed (ARS -- Accident Rescue System, VSS -- Vehicle Safety System, SSS -- Ship Safety System) to automatically take emergency measures to save the people on the basis of signals from various sensors in the event of an unplanned, dangerous increase in temperature, pressure, and so forth. But their potential on the shuttle is limited.

If, for instance, a crack appears in the body of the booster or if its welded seam parts (and that is what experts investigating the recent disaster are inclined to think, and a tongue of flame is indeed visible on the video pcitures), then an explosion is inevitable, and there can be no rescue. Incidentally, the Challenger tragedy could have taken place on 30 August 1983, if one of the boosters had operated for another 14 seconds -- on that occasion, the nozzle's heat insulation practically burned through. There is still hope for the astronauts if the VSS "senses" the undesirable phenomena in time and separates the ship, together with the fuel tank, from the booster: The separation of the ship alone, without the tank, offers no particular chance of survival, since the engines will be left without fuel. Then, having achieved the necessary reserve of altitude, the cosmonauts will detach the tank and attempt to glide.

Landing the shuttle is a complex process. Even its normal landing velocity is some 350 km per hour -- far higher than any fighter plane. The shuttle's high landing speed certainly involves considerable risk. Coming into land without a working engine and gliding without the possibility of going around again if you miss it, as any aircraft can do -- all this demands the highest skill and attention on the part of the cosmonauts. That is why Francis Scobee, commander of the Challenger who had already flown it as copilot, once joked darkly: "This thing's going to blow up some time."

Just imagine this picture: the ship has already left orbit, and at that time something unforeseen happens in the landing region or to the runway itself...

The shuttle's crew are not now provided with spacesuits or ejector seats. And it is not hard to imagine what would happen to people if the ship depressurized in orbit or in the rarefied strata of the atmosphere.

So we can see how unsafe this system is even in normal conditions! We can see how much it needs normal, calm, prolonged and thorough preparations. In a war situation the system is extremely vulnerable, but it could play a considerable and sinister role in preparations for "star wars." We sympathize with the relatives of those who died and we understand the situation of the engineers and workers who prepared the ship for launch -- things are very difficult for them now.

When it is reported that a high-school teacher was to have given lessons for schoolchildren while in orbit, I find this idea sympathetic: It expands the framework of our ideas about the universe and helps to raise future specialists in cosmonautics (although it is said that her flight was aimed at lessening the friction between the administration and the country's education workers trade union and smacked of a public relations exercise). When it is reported that it was proposed to study Halley's Comet from on board the ship, such experiments can only be welcomed. But when we learn from the same reports that a number of specific objectives of the flight were in pursuit of the interests of the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), or in other words the militarization of space, and that the coastguard command is worried about the search for a "green tin canister" and declare: "Anyone who touches it will be dead in 2 second," such reports cannot but cause us to feel bitterness and alarm.

The idea of the possibility of destroying nuclear weapons on earth from space is utopian. If a "star war" starts, it will become an earth war without fail. How right the scientists and commentators are when they point out what could happen if a similar disaster took place in the conditions of a tense situation when SDI systems had been deployed. Yes, the situation could get out of control...

I subscribe to the words of Professor K.P. Feoktistov, spaceship designer and cosmonaut: "Of course, the creation of the shuttle was an impressive engineering achievement for American space rocket and aircraft technology. ...Articles are appearing more and more often to the effect that the main purpose of the shuttle system is military... All this is very sad, and it has been repeated more than once: The sophisticated achievements of science and technology have been used to create means of destruction -- that is, they have struck at the people who created them."

Yet how much one would like to forecast the weather and study the stars together with American experts, to fly to Mars together...

KENNEDY PRESS CONFERENCE IN U.S. REPORTED

PM101105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Sincere Desire"]

[Text] Washington, 9 Feb -- Senator E. Kennedy, a prominent U.S. public and political figure, declared that the Soviet Union sincerely desires success at the talks on nuclear and space arms.

The senator gave a press conference at one of the halls in Congress on Saturday, following his return from Moscow where he was received by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze, and also had meetings with representatives of Soviet scientific circles. E. Kennedy emphasized the firmness of the Soviet Union's stance aimed at preventing the transfer of the arms race to outer space. The senator also noted the importance of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva and expressed the opinion that meetings between the top leaders of the USSR and the United States are of enormous significance for the cause of progress in relations between the two countries.

Answering a question regarding his attitude toward the "star wars" program, E. Kennedy stressed that he has been and still is against the militarization of outer space, and is a firm supporter of the Soviet-American ABM Treaty.

LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS ARRIVE IN U.S.

LD102013 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 10 TASS -- Foreign ministers of eight Latin American countries arrived in Washington for talks with U.S. secretary of state and other high officials of the U.S. Administration about the situation in Central America. Representatives of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay will set out to the U.S. Administration the plan of peaceful settlement in the region which has been endorsed at a meeting in Caraballeda, Venezuela, last month.

As Argentina's Foreign Minister Dante Caputo stressed after the arrival in Washington, such proposals represent the sole path to the solution of problems in Central America. According to the minister, this is a balanced plan in which the interests of all sides are taken into consideration.

U.S. NAVAL MANEUVERS OFF LIBYAN COAST REPORTED

'Permanent Pressure' Desired

LD102027 Moscow TASS in English 0605 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 10 TASS -- NEWSWEEK Magazine, with reference to high-placed spokesmen of the Pentagon, reports that the United States has decided to take another step in the escalation of the "war of nerves" against Libya. Apart from holding provocative naval exercises during which an order will be issued to the ship-based aircraft of the U.S. sixth fleet to intrude into Libya's air space, it has been decided to ensure U.S. permanent naval presence near the shores of that Arab state. The magazine points out that some officials of the Reagan Administration expect through a permanent military pressure to provoke Libya into taking reply measures, which would give the USA a pretext for a direct armed intervention.

'Provocative' Maneuvers Expected

LD110614 Moscow TASS in English 0542 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 11 TASS -- The American military intends to resume shortly its provocative manoeuvers off the coasts of Libya. A large naval battle group comprising about twenty warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet led by the aircraft-carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga is being concentrated in the area.

According to the Associated Press report, a notification has been sent to the International Civil Aviation Organization saying that carrier-based aircraft of the U.S. Navy will carry out air operations in the region serviced by Tripoli airport dispatchers from February 12 to 15.

In January, the Pentagon held major air exercises in the region, involving carrier-based F-14 fighters and F-18 fighter-bombers.

REAGAN RADIO ADDRESS CONFIRMS DOMESTIC CUTS

LD102220 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Feb 86

[V. Dunayev report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As was confirmed by President Reagan in his latest radio address, the U.S. Administration intends to achieve a cut in federal spending mainly at the expense of those programs which are vitally important for millions of the most hard-up Americans.

[Dunayev] When the U.S. President delivered to Congress his annual address -- or as they say here, the State of the Union message -- yet another message about the State of the Union which differed sharply from that made by the President, was heard simultaneously only two streets away from the capitol. And although it is not going to get the same press, all the same, wihout this message, it is difficult to imagine the true situation in America.

The message was read out from the steps of a temporary refuge for the homeless by the homeless and the unemployed themselves, not by speakers. The message was on their behalf; on behalf of the 800 people of Washington who come to this refuge at night; on behalf of the 50,000 people who spend the night on the street in Los Angeles; on behalf of the 10,000 homeless children of New York. There was no ovation here as there was in Congress when the President spoke: There was nothing to applaud. The President invited four young people to Congress who had achieved distinction during the past year and congratulated them warmly before the eyes of the whole country. Children were also received at the ceremony that took place in the Washington shelter: six homeless boys and girls, six out of the 6 million starving children in the U.S. six out of the 14 million who live beyond the brink of poverty, six out of an unkown number of homeless waifs, six whose ages ranged from 8 months to 12 years. They are not the majority in the U.S., things have not gone that far: but there are ever increasing numbers of poor children in the rich U.S.

When the President talked about a strong America, he had in mind missiles and squadrons; while they, the homeless children of America, think that a strong country is a country which does not deny a roof overhead to its children and does not deny work to their fathers, its citizens. Two messages about the state of the union were heard through Washington.

INCREASED MILITARY SPENDING IN U.S. DISCUSSED

LD101916 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 10 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Excerpt] Where do the huge sums of money pumped out of the U.S. taxpayer go? Primarily into military expenditure, which amounts -- taking into account only allocations to the Pentagon -- to 27 percent of the total federal budget. And in the United States military expenditure is incurred not only under Pentagon items but also, for example, by the Department of Energy. It supervises, in particular, the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Incidentally allocations for nuclear weapons are a very considerable item in the Pentagon's balance sheet.

This includes expenditure on manufacture of another 21 MX ICBMS with 10 nuclear warheads each, the construction of another 5 missile-carrying submarines, the purchase of another 200 aircract capable of carrying nuclear weapons, and the development [razrabotka] of a new mobile midgetman ICBM. At the same time, major allocations are envisioned also for military space programs. They are to be increased in the next financial year by 75 percent to $6.5 billion. And in the 5-year period expenditure on the "star wars" projects is planned to reach $42 billion.

What is the result? Quite recently Washington was saying that implementation of the military space programs -- officially called the Strategic Defense Initiative -- makes nuclear weapons superfluous. Now, as we see, it is planned to build up both. Washington's recent statement that the US arms build-up is allegedly an answer to the actions of the Soviet Union does not stand criticism. An official report by the U.S. Chiefs of Staffs Committee sent to Congress in connection with the debates on the Budget admits not only nuclear parity between the United States and the USSR but also consistent fulfillment by the USSR of the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, named SALT-II, signed in the summer of 1979 in Vienna but never ratified by the United States.

All these facts are much talked about and disputed in the United States not only in connection with the debates on the budget but also in connections with the broad response here to the new peace initiatives of the USSR set out in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and confirmed in his answers to questions from L'HUMANITE.

For instance, the statements by Townsend Hoopes, former undersecretary of the Air Force and now chairman of the Consultative National Security Council, are noteworthy. The new Soviet proposals, he writes in NEWSDAY are an eloquent call to the U.S. President to assume his share of responsibility and look straight at the fact that national security can no longer be guaranteed unilaterally regardless of how much money is spend on the armed forces and on new technology.

Similar statments have been made in the United States especially after the disaster of the Challenger spacecraft. True, a session of the special presidential commission conducting an inquiry is still meeting behind closed doors. At the same time, reports have been leaked to THE WASHINTON POST that NASA was under pressure to keep to a tight schedule of flights in reusable spacecraft, although, as has become known, recently there were four major explosions which caused casualties at the factories of the Norton company which makes the solid fuel boosters.

And here is the conclusion arrived at in an open letter published in THE NEW YORK TIMES by two United States scientists: The tragedy of the Challenger [sozdaniye] of an anti-missile defense system with space-based elements. The "star wars program would turn the United States into a spacecraft, making the existence of the entire population dependent on U.S. technology which, as we see, is definitely not fault-free.

Still more critical statements are being heard in the West European NATO allies of the United States. This is particularly noted by U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. It writes that the West Europeans are worried by the "star wars" programs.

Indeed, here are some reports from the FRG, for instance, visited recently by two United States envoys -- Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Whitehead and the President's special envoy on disarmament problems Nitze. Both of them tried hard to influence both the government and the public of the FRG who have been more and more actively supporting the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. Now Washington's envoys, speaking in Bonn, have been vying with one another to assure the people that President Reagan is just on the point of answering the Soviet proposals.

But so far something different has been noted in the FRG. The HAMBURG SPIEGEL shows in this diagram that U.S. military expenditure -- despite all the promises -- has not gone down but on the contrary has increased. And to illustrate this the journal publishes another diagram showing the rise in profits of one of the major military firms of the United States, IBM, engaged in the manufacture of electronics for missile, space, and nuclear programs.

JOINT CHIEFS URGE SUPPORT FOR 'GLOBAL ROLE'

PM101045 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Course of Militarization"]

[Text] Washington, 6 Feb -- The U.S. Joint Chiefs view the entire globe and space near the earth as a U.S. domain. The pages of their annual report "The U.S. Military Position in the World and Fiscal 1987" intended to reinforce the Pentagon's budget request this year for the astronomical sum of $311.6 billion literally bristle with concepts such as "U.S. global interests," "free access to all seas and oceans and outer space," "access to sources of raw materials," and so forth.

The Joint Chiefs claim that the U.S. Armed Forces are now playing a "global role," since, they say, "the United States has global interests and obligations." On that basis and reinforcing their arguments with the hackneyed thesis of the "Soviet military threat," they are demanding that Congress approve all the Pentagon's budget requests for fiscal 1987. The report's authors insist on building up and modernizing both U.S. strategic and conventional arms and strengthening the U.S. military presence in Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Ocean areas.

The compilers of the report are militating for new multibillion-dollar spending programs in order to enhance the mobility of U.S. Armed Forces by increasing the potential for transferring them to any part of the globe and expanding the network of U.S. military, air, and naval bases abroad. They are devoting particular attention to the questions of building up the might and mobility of the Marine Corps and special purpose troops.

Devoting main attention to the sphere of the strategic arms buildup, the Joint Chiefs state with satisfaction that the "United States is continuing to give priority to the modernization of its strategic arsenal by developing [razrabotka], creating [sozdaniye], and deploying systems such as space arms, MX, Midgetman, and Trident ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and the latest bombers, including the B-1B."

NEW FIRM TO HANDLE BORDER TRADE WITH PRC

PM110959 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Feb 86 p 3

[Interview with V. Lozovoy, general director of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade's "Dalintorg" all-union association, by TRUD correspondent V. Chetvergov: "Introducing 'Dalprigran'" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] "Dalprigran" — that is the name of a new foreign trade firm which has opened in Maritime Kray. Its "headquarters" is located in the city of Nakhodka. At the request of TRUD correspondent V. Chetvergov, this event is commented on by V. Losovoy, general director of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade's "Dalintorg" all-union association:

[Chetvergov] Valeriy Konstantinovich, why has "Dalprigran" been set up?

[Lozovoy] As has alreasy been reported in the press, trade talks were successfully completed in Beijing the other day between USSR and PRC gpvernment delegations. A protocol on trade turnover and payments for 1986 was signed. Trade ties between our countries continue to develop steadily. That is why a new specialized firm was created at the beginning of this year within the system of our "Dalintorg" association, to take on all cross-border trade with the PRC.

[Chetvergov] What goods will the Soviet Union be receiving from China in the near future and what will it supply inexchange?

[Lozovoy] Machines and equipment for various sectors of industry, means of transport, ferrous metals, fertilizers, and commercial lumber will be supplied to the PRC from the USSR. Chinese organizations offer their traditional goods: light and food industry products.

PAPER NOTES PRC MILITARY COMMISSION MEETING

PM111005 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb Second Edition p 3

["Own information" report: "Report in RENMIN RIBAO"]

[Text] RENMIN RIBAO has reported that the third plenum of the PRC Central Military Council Discipline Verification Commission was held in Beijing from 27 January through 2 February. The plenum participants, the report states, analyzed the situation among the troops and formulated practical measures to implement the decisions of the CPC Central Committee and the Central Military Council concerning the "rectification of party style." The speakers pointed out that in 1986 it is necessary to strive for "a fundamental change in the observance of party style in the Army, starting with leading organs and leading cadre workers." It was emphasized at the plenum that "the Army must march in the vanguard of the movement for rectification of the style of party work."

CRITICISM OF 'TEAM SPIRIT-86' EXERCISES REPORTED

Rehearsal for Nuclear War

LD101439 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 10 TASS -- In connection with the U.S.-South Korean "Team Spirit-86" exercises, which began today, the supreme commander-in-chief of the Korean People's Army has ordered that all military and para-military units be put on full combat alert. This self-defense measure has been taken in order to foil resolutely all enemy intrigues, to defend the homeland reliably, says the announcement by the supreme commander-in-chief of the Korean People's Army issued by the CENTRAL KOREAN NEWS AGENCY here today.

"The war-mongering actions of the USA and the Seoul regime are an open challenge to the Korean people, create a serious threat to peace in Asia and all over the world," says the announcement. Taking part in the exercises are more than 200,000 servicemen, among whose weapons are aircraft carriers, strategic bombers and missiles. Large quantities of U.S. nuclear weapons are deployed in South Korea.

The "Team Spirit-86" exercises are a rehearsal of a nuclear war against the DPRK, an attempt at heightening tensions in Korea to the limit. Such is the answer of the USA and the South Korean authorities to the decision of the DPRK Government not to hold big military exercises beginning from February 1, this year, and halt all war games during the North-South dialogue, and to its call for joining in that move.

The "Team Spirit-86" exercises have been described by the supreme commander-in-chief of the Korean People's Army as a "reckless military provocation of the U.S. imperialists and their South Korean puppets."

Undermines Asian, Pacific Security

LD101645 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] A joint American-South Korean exercise, "Team Spirit-86", has got underway. The large scale maneuvres involve over 200,000 servicemen and a large quantity of aircraft, naval vessels and advanced hardware. Our observer Vladimir Korolev comments:

The exercise is clearly provocative by nature. Troops are reported to be practicing offensive operations and learning actions in the conditions of the use of nuclear weapons, and there are such weapons in South Korea, where United States military bases have up to 1000 nuclear warheads and means of their delivery. To justify the maneuvres the Pentagon's chief, Caspar Weinberger, has alleged that there is a threat of attack from the north. But this is a deliberate lie. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a peace-loving state that does not intend to attack anyone. Otherwise it wouldn't have proposed recently that military exercises should not be conducted on the Korean Peninsula and around it. And Pyongyang's overall policy is aimed at turning the peninsula into a region of peace.

Washington and Seoul describe "Team Spirit-86" as an allegedly bilateral exercise. Nevertheless, there is in fact a third participant, Japan, for transport planes with troops and military equipment have been dispatched from American bases in Japan to South Korea. Besides, Japan itself is now the site of Japanese-American maneuvres, (?sugaru-86), in which the transfer of commandos to any part of Asia is being tested. This makes the current demonstrations of military force in the Far East look more ominous than at first glance. It's also indicative that the exercises are underway in the immediate proximity to the Soviet Union's Far Eastern frontiers and affect the interests of this country's security.

The Soviet News Agency TASS has issued a statement denouncing the "Team Spirit-86" exercise in South Korea. The USSR regards this as undermining security in Asia and the Pacific and threatening the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, other peace-loving nations and univeral peace.

U.S. Intimidation Displayed

LD102219 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Commentary by All-Union Foreign Policy Correspondent Nikolay Agayants from the "International Diary, Facts, opinions" Program Presented by Vladimir Pasko]

[Text] Large-scale maneuvers have begun in the area of the Korean peninsula by the U.S. Armed Forces and the Seoul regime under the code name "Team Spirit-86." I invite my colleague, foreign policy commentator of All-Union Radio Nikolay Agayants, to tell you about this in greater detail:

In order to attain its hegemonist goal and to bring pressure of force to bear upon governments which refuse to submit to U.S. diktat, the Washington administration is resorting to its practice, increasingly frequently, to demonstrations of military might, to muscle flexing as they say. A prominent position in this arsenal of intimidation and blackmail is now allocated to all kinds of maneuvers. Literally a day passes without there being a report on the start of fresh exercises with the participation of the Navy, Air Force, the Green Berets or the land forces of the United States. And what titles they think up for these provocative games in the Pentagon -- "Rimpac," (? Sugaru), "Bright Star," "Exotic Palm," "Ocean Safari" -- They go on and on. And now some information about the "Team Spirit-86" meaneuvers.

I will remind you that more than 200,000 American and South Korean servicemen, air force and support units from dozens of U.S. military bases located on the territory of the United States itself, on the Hawaian islands, Guam, the Philippines and Japan have been mobilized for these exercises. Warships of the American 7th Fleet, subdetachments of the Marines and of the special purpose troops will take part in the maneuvers. The aim of this undertaking is to work out large-scale landing operations and to improve preparations for joint combat actions of an offensive nature using means of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons.

The "Team Spirit-86" military exercises, which are being held in direct proximity to the frontier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, should be evaluated as another dangerous step in the military links between Washington and Seoul. Allow me to note that, through the efforts of the Pentagon brasshats, South Korea has long since been transfomred into the region's powder-magazine.

Fanning the myth of a threat from the north, the present Washington administration and the Seoul regime are continuing stubbornly to hold a course towards stepping up militarist preparations and escalating tension in the Far East. In South Korea today there are 40 U.S. bases, and a whole complex of stockpiles of nuclear weapons whose overall might surpasses that of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima by 820 times over. Furthermore, the Pentagon is now hatching plans for the deployment in South Korea of Pershing-2, Tomahawks and neutron weapons.

The TASS statement on "Team Spirit-86" says clearly and precisely, I quote: The Soviet Union condemns resolutely the provocative militarist games by the U.S. and South Korean military in the south of the Korean peninsula, which are undermining foundations of security in the Asian Pacific Ocean region and which carry a threat to the DPRK and to other peace-loving states, as well as to the whole world.

DPRK Condemns Exercises

LD101920 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 TASS -- The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people strongly denounce the militaristic intrigues of the U.S. and South Korea which are regarded by them as an open challenge to all those who come out for a dialogue and peace in Korea, as actions undermining peace in Asia and the world over. This is pointed out in a statement of a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made in connection with the U.S.-South Korean military exercise "Team Spirit-86" which started today in the south of the Korean peninsula.

Facts show that this muscle-flexing demonstration is a rehearsal of a nuclear war aimed at the realization of the U.S. aggressive designs with regard to the whole of Korea and Asia in general, the statement stresses. It turns down the attempts of Washington and Seoul to present the started military exercise as a "defensive" one. The scope of the military exercise in which over 200,000 officers and men are taking part, including U.S. units from the territory of the U.S. itself and from its bases in the Pacific, aircraft carriers and other naval ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, as well as the fact that they are equipped with nuclear weapons and the very character of actions of the troops -- all this shows that the purpose of the military exercise is the training of large-scale offensive operations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The statement underlines that the hostile action of the U.S. and its partners is being taken at the time when the whole world welcomed the decision of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea not to stage major military exercises in the Korean peninsula and around it as of February 1 and to refrain from any military exercises during the talks with South Korea. However, Washington and Seoul left unanswered the appeal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to follow its example. This is why they are to bear full responsibility for the breakup of the dialogue between North and South Korea, for a new aggravation of the situation in that region.

The U.S. should immediately stop the started military exercise and to withdraw its troops from South Korea together with nuclear and other death-carrying weapons, the statement stresses. The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses hope that governments, peoples, international organizations and peace champions in all the countries will actively support the struggle of the Korean people against the instigative actions of the U.S. and the South Korean authorities, for ensuring peace and achieving a peaceful unification of Korea.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES DRA MINES, INDUSTRY MINISTER

PM1010593 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition p 6

[TASS report under general Headline: "Developing Ties"]

[Text] On 5 February I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received N. (Nasir), DRA minister of mines and industry, and held a warm, friendly conversation with him on questions of the state of and prospects for developing Soviet-Afghan economic and technical cooperation.

H. Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

AFGHAN PDPA SECRETARY PRAISES SOVIET SUPPORT

PM100951 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Egyptian Journalists on Afghanistan"]

[Text] Cairo, 7 Feb -- The newspaper AL-AHALI has published an article by Egyptian journalists who recently visited Afghanistan. It says, in particular:

The limited contingent of Soviet troops was sent to Afghanistan at the request of the DRA Government and in accordance with the Treaty of Friendship, Goodneighborliness, and Cooperation between the DRA and the USSR. This measure is entirely in line with the UN Charter, accords with the spirit of traditional friendship linking the Afghan and Soviet peoples, and is aimed at defending the gains of the April Revolution from outside encroachment. The DRA Government has repeatedly stated that the presence of the limited Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan is temporary. These forces will return to the USSR under an agreement with the DRA after the armed interference in its internal affairs stops and guarantees are given that it will not be resumed.

"The USSR's help in the struggle against the imperialist forces headed by the United States is vitally important for us and was given on a legitimate basis," the Egyptian journalists were told by M. Baryalay, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. "Meanwhile, the forces of imperialism and reaction will have to answer the question about why they are interfering in our country's internal affairs."

"According to UN statistics, until recently Afghanistan was one of the least developed places in the world," S.M. Zaray, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politbuto and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, stressed. "In those days not a single imperialist state showed a readiness to give us help. Now that we are able to choose our own friends, the imperialists are expressing 'extreme concern' about a 'restriction of sovereignty and religion' in Afghanistan.

"The United States, Pakistan, Iran, China, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt," S.M. Zaray continued, "make no secret of their support for the Afghan counterrevolution. They arm and finance groups that are terrorizing the Afghan people and killing, stealing, and burning on DRA soil. According to former Egyptian President al-Sadat's statements, the United States bought Soviet-made weapons from Egypt and passed them on to their Afghan counterrevolutionary hirelings. People try to claim that these weapons have been 'captured from Soviet and Afghan soldiers.'"

In unleashing the undeclared war against the DRA, U.S. imperialism is trying to exhaust the country's resources and cut the ground from under the revolutionary authorities. However, the U.S. gamble on undermining and destabilizing the situation in Afghanistan has failed, the authors note.

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS BRIEFED DURING AFGHAN VISIT

PM101433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Journalists' Trip"]

[Text] Kabul, 6 Feb -- A group of representatives of the mass media of the USSR, the GDR, the CSSR, Poland, the United States, Britain, the FRG, Japan, Sweden, India, Kuwait, and Finland were in Afghanistan from 20 through 27 January at the DRA Foreign Ministry's invitation. The visitors were acquainted with the republic's achievements in the political, economic, and cultural spheres in the period since the April Revolution and the social transformations which are being carried out in the broad working masses' interests despite the continuing undeclared war waged by imperialism and reaction against the Afghan people.

A number of press conferences were organized for the foreign journalists. Prominent DRA statesmen and party and public figures, including new nonparty members of the republic's government and Revolutionary Council answered their questions.

During meetings with DRA Government members the foreign journalists were given information about the development of the country's national economy. The journalists learned about the activity of state and private sector trade and the mass literacy campaign. Conversations stressed the important role played in various spheres by international aid to Afghanistan from the USSR and the other socialist countries.

During their visit, the journalists conversed with believers representing the working class and peasantry and members of local organs of power. Ordinary Afghans spoke with anger and outrage about the crimes of dushman gangs and the support given to the bandits by their imperialist protectors.

During a trip to Jalalabad, the foreign journalists met participants in the events in the Khyber Pass region, where the Islamabad regime has thrown many thousands of regular army troops against Afridi and Shinwari tribes. Authoritative representatives and leaders of these Pashto tribes expressed support for revolutionary Afghanistan and resolutely condemned the U.S. -backed Pakistani armed intervention in the free tribe's affairs and the goons' tyranny.

B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, spoke at the concluding press conference about the solidarity of the Afghan Government and people with the Pashto tribes' struggle and their readiness to give them all moral assistance. The foreign journalists received additional explanations on the question of the new government measures to broaden the social base of revolutionary power and on the settlement of the situation surrounding Afghanistan.

YELTSIN RECEIVES PZPR DELEGATION IN MOSCOW

PM101425 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Guests From Warsaw"]

[Text] A delegation of the Warsaw PZPR Committee headed by J. Kubasiewicz, first secretary of the Warsaw PZPR Committee, arrived in Moscow yesterday at the invitation of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom. The delegation consists of M. Szostek, chairman of the Warsaw People's Council; Debicki, governor of Warsaw; and L. Glogowski, section chief at the Warsaw PZPR Committee.

On the same day the delegation was received at the Moscow CPSU Gorkom by B.N. Yeltsin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom. Briefings were exchanged on progress in preparations by the two capitals' party organizations for the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress and the fulfillment of plans for the capitals' socioeconomic development. Questions concerning the strengthening of friendly ties between Moscow and Warsaw were discussed.

V.T. Saykin, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom, V.G. Zakharov and L.N. Spiridonov, secretaries of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom; and W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS SOVIET-POLISH CONSULTATIONS

PM091938 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Soviet-Polish consultations were held at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 7 February. They were attended by J. Kinast, Polish deputy minister of foreign affairs, and V.G. Komplektov and V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign ministers. An exchange of views took place on questions of mutual interest. Present at the talks was W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

ALBANIAN TRADE ACCORDS WITH POLAND, CSSR CITED

PM061457 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Agreements Signed"]

[Text] Warsaw, 4 Feb -- An agreement on commodity exchange and payments for 1986-1990 and protocol on commodity exchange and payments for 1986 have been signed between Poland and Albania here, PAP reports.

In conformity with the document, Poland will supply Albania with mining equipment, vans, cars, and light industry products. The Albanian export list comprises bitumen, chrome ore, and consumer goods.

Prague, 4 Feb -- CTK reports that an agreement between the CSSR and Albania on commodity exchange and payments for 1986-1990 has been signed in Tirana.

The CSSR will export to Albania trucks, locomotives, railcars, machine tools, and consumer goods. Albania's exports to Czechoslovakia will include chrome ore, bitumen, tobacco goods, vegetables and fruit.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN LEAVES POST

AU111025 Paris AFP in English 1015 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Madrid, Feb 11 (AFP) -- The Soviet ambassador to Spain, Yuriy Dubinin, has left his post and is to return to Moscow later this week, an embassy spokesman said here today.

He did not give any reason for Mr. Dubinin's departure. The 55-year-old ambassador had been in Madrid since October 1978.

ZAMYATIN VISITS FINLAND; MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

Received by Foreign Minister

LD071128 Moscow TASS in English 1029 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Helsinki, February 7 TASS -- A meeting of members of antiwar, public and political organizations of Finland was held here. It was attended by MPs [Members of Parliament] representatives of leading political parties of the country, the organization "Peace Supporters of Finland", trade unions, youth organizations, the "Finland -- Soviet Union" society, and pressmen.

Leonid Zamyatin, head of the Department of International Information of the CPSU Central Committee, a member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. delivered a report about the new Soviet peace initiatives destined to eliminate nuclear weapons and terminate the lethal arms race.

Paavo Vayrynen, minister of foreign affairs of Finland, chairman of the Center Party, received Leonid Zamyatin and had a conversation with him on questions relating to disarmament in the context of Soviet proposals set forth by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in his statement of January 15, 1986.

Prime Minister Meets Zamyatin

LD101458 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1001 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Helsinki, 10 Feb (TASS) -- Kalevi Sorsa, the prime minister of Finland and chairman of the country's Social Democratic Party today received Leonid Zamyatin, chief of the International Information Department at the CPSU Central Committee who is here and had a conversation with him on several international issues.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA ON GORBACHEV INTERVIEW

Interviewer Comments

PM100947 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Article by Gerard Streiff, Moscow correspondent of L'HUMANITE and member of the French Communist Party Central Committee: "I am Proud To Have Been the First to Read the Interview"]

[Text] To be able to interview Comrade Gorbachev on questions of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy, in my view, is a great opportunity, even from the professional viewpoint, and in addition it is evidence of the profound mutual respect in relations between the Soviet and French Communists.

From the political viewpoint this interview is of tremendous significance. There is a great deal that is new in it, both in form and in content. First, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee speaks about everything; there are no "taboo" questions for him. Second, his replies clearly reflect the changes that are currently taking place in the life of the entire country.

Which of Comrade Gorbachev's replies did we find most interesting? Virtually all of them. Our questions were direct, even pointed at times. And to all of them we received a specific and detailed answer without any "padding." In addition to the historical perspective, Comrade Gorbachev touched on issues of internal life, the economic reforms, for instance, which are currently being implemented in your country -- an important and interesting matter. He noted that specific difficulties and problems exist in this sphere which have to be confronted. To us, all the topics touched on in the interview seem extraordinarily important.

As for the replies to the questions concerning international politics, I was particularly impressed by Comrade Gorbachev's analysis of the U.S. Administration's course, and especially its stance on the "star wars" plans. He made a distinction between a small group of "enthusiasts" within the administration who believe in this venture, those who want to grow rich on it, and those who would like to use the opportunity to exhaust the USSR economically.

Now I would like to draw your attention to the following fact: When on the morning after the publication of the interview I listened to Moscow radio's First Program, the announcers read the text of Comrade Gorbachev's replies to our questions, while the French radio failed to even mention the interview. There was not a word! I learned about this on the same day after telephoning my family who live in Provence. A logical question arises: How is it possible that French radio fails to mention such an interview? The answer is simple. It is possible because everything that bears any relation to the Soviet Union is censored in France. Our bourgeoisie is afraid of socialism and the socialist countries. It is afraid because its own country, just like all other capitalist countries, is in a state of crisis. It is afraid lest socialism should become a realistic alternative to capitalism in people's minds. This is why in France either slander or attacks are forthcoming on the subject of the USSR or...a deathly silence.

Our interview is a case in point. As one of its authors I am perhaps being immodest but I consider this interview simply exceptional. It contains so much that is new, matters that are of interest to the French. After all, most of my compatriots are very interested in everything that concerns the Soviet Union, everything that happens there, and the interview with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee contains precisely the information they would like to have. However, the bourgeois authorities are afraid of this kind of information and are, by means of censorship, stopping the truth from getting through.

This, in my view, is the main reason why anti-Sovietism is rampant in France today; anti-Sovietism based on ignorance. All the newspapers -- with the exception of L'HUMANITE -- as well as the radio and television are constantly spreading false information about the Soviet Union. The U.S. press, for instance, claims that all the USSR's peace initiatives are a propaganda trick. The same is true of the French right-wing newspapers. At every opportunity they claim: "Propaganda, nothing but propaganda!" Take for instance M.S. Gorbachev's statement -- this sensational package of new positive initiatives whose implementation would make it possible to rid the world of nuclear weapons within 15 years. Yet the bourgeois press tried, at best, to underrate the significance of this peace program claiming: "It is, of course, a beautiful dream, but not more than that. It is unrealistic." At worst, the press did not mention the Soviet proposals at all, hushing them up, just like our interview.

I repeat, anti-Sovietism in France is based mainly on lack of knowledge about the Soviet Union. It is, for instance, widespread among French cultural figures. However, as soon as any one of them gets to know just something about Soviet culture or meets one of his Soviet colleagues, their impression of the USSR changes drastically.

The history of friendship between France and your country spans many decades. Between our states there are many points of contact and therefore it is not surprising that despite the efforts of the bourgeois press and censorship the desire to get to know more about the Soviet Union and to establish closer links nonetheless prevails among the French. Most of my compatriots believe that it is a good thing when Moscow and Paris are together; for Europe, and for the whole world.

'Anti-Sovietism' in France

PM101701 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Report by own correspondent K. Privalov. "A Moment of Truth"]

[Text] Paris, 8 Feb -- "L'HUMANITE doesn't need any publicity today," mail service employee Gerard (Ali) was sure of that. On Saturdays he generally stands with a bundle of copies of L'HUMANITE, still reeking of printer's ink, near the market outside Montparnasse Station. "Everyone wants to know what CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev said. It is the first time a leader of the Soviet State has granted the French Communists' newspaper an interview.

"CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev answered with great candor all the questions we put to him. They were the very questions that are currently on the lips of broad strata of the French public," L'HUMANITE political director Roland Leroy, member of the French Communist Party (PCF) Politburo told Soviet journalists. "Unfortunately, French people are currently being subjected to massive anti-Soviet indoctrination. For that very reason there is an acute need for authentic information about your country. Comrade Gorbachev answered frankly and with great optimism all our questions concerning the USSR's economic development and the role played by the CPSU. He also touched on vital problems of peace. He speaks with amazing precision and clarity about the need for disarmament and international detente. Analyzing the state of French-Soviet relations since his visit to Paris, he expressed bewilderment at the unjustified expulsion of four Soviet diplomats from France... To sum up, I want to emphasize once again that it was L'HUMANITE that printed the important interview with the Soviet leader.

Yes, the publication of the interview was keenly awaited here. Both our friends and our enemies in France were preparing for it. Everyone was perfectly well aware that an interview with M.S. Gorbachev in one of the country's main dailies is an important step toward the French people, who want a new interpretation of the world political atmosphere and want to "discover" for themselves the one-fifth [as published] of the globe known as the USSR. Some people acquired this knowledge in the Odessa roadstead, where the red flag of rebel Marseilles sailors was hoisted above the interventionists' squadron sent to put down the revolution. Some acquired it in the forests and mountains of France when it was fighting the Hitlerite aggressors, when men with unpronounceable Russian names began to appear in the Maquis partisan detachments. But for some the "discovery" of the Soviet Union began today -- with the interview.

"Ignorance of the realities of the Soviet way of life is not French people's fault but their misfortune," Claude (Sheyu), deputy mayor of the city of Corbeil-Essonnes, said. Comrade Gorbachev is calling for friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation. I am convinced that the majority of French people want constant and close contacts with the Soviet Union and detente. We all need peace, for the sake of our children's future."

The conversation took place in the foyer of the "Pablo Neruda" Center, one of the main attractions in Corbeil-Essonnes. The seventh children's movie festival is currently taking place in this splendid building. It is being attended by Soviet moviemakers and Soviet schoolchildren studying French. The movies alternate with meetings for the children with their contemporaries. During one of them a French boy, Alain, made the acquaintance of a young Muscovite, Vanya. They are both 11. What did the curly-haired boys talk about, what did they debate? The cartoons showing in France and the USSR, vacations at summer camps, their favorite dogs...Questions and answers that were naive and childlike in their simplicity. But they implied not only a mutual interest, but a burning desire to convert this attraction into a permanent, lasting friendship.

And all this despite attempts by certain forces in France to discredit French-Soviet relations at all costs.

"When I picked up a fourth-grade geography textbook I was amazed at the spirit of primitive anti-Sovietism that ran through it," Francoise Dufour of Manche wrote in her letter. "When I went to the school and angrily showed the book to the teacher, he made me feel ashamed: Apparently, there had been another book before, but it was considered too 'pro-Soviet,' allegedly produced with 'money from Moscow'...Later I learned that not long before a teacher who had made no secret of his Communist Party membership had been expelled from the school. He was accused of 'overpoliticizing' classes and dismissed. Great! Apparently what we have is not freedom, but a one-way street!"

Last week alone on several occasions French television turned its lavishly illuminated studios into veritable incubators for raising fat anti-Soviet "canards." All manner of "sensations" were sent soaring into the air! But the slanderers forget one important thing: You can fool some of the people some the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time.

"I was very pleased to hear CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev talking about Soviet youth and saying that young men and women in the USSR are loyal to the ideals of socialism and are actively involved in all spheres of the country's life." My interlocutor was Gilles (Per), a leader of the Paris branch of the French Communist Youth Movement. "In the West they are too fond of claiming that youth today is 'deideologized,' bereft of moral values... Comrade Gorbachev is right: Those who think this way are in fact indulging in wishful thinking. As the Soviet leader rightly said, facts are obstinate things. The tasks facing young people in the USSR cannot be compared with the problems young French people have to tackle every day. Can one believe in the ideals of bourgeois 'freedom' and 'democracy' when hundreds of thousands of young people in France alone do not even have unemployment benefits! The picture is completely different in the Soviet Union: 500,000 young people are working voluntarily and enthusiastically at shock construction sites in Siberia, the European North, and the Far East."

"...The world lives on grains of truth and large quantities of lies," Romain Rolland claimed. The wise Frenchman was probably right. But sometimes the mountains of lies cannot outweigh the priceless grains of truth. This happens -- alas! -- rarely. Indeed, the moment of truth is part of a sequence. It is the culmination of the whole course of history. And when its time comes, it becomes part of history itself. For France that hour has struck!

U.S., ISRAEL PREPARING OPERATION AGAINST LIBYA

LD110911 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] We have already reported the beginning of large-scale NATO maneuvers in the south of the Italian island of Sardinia. Observers draw attention to the fact that these military games are taking place in close proximity to the shores of Africa, at a time of aggravation of the situation in the Mediterranean region because of the provocative U.S. campaign against Libya. Apart from the fact that naval aircraft of the U.S. 6th Fleet have been ordered to make incursions into Libya's airspace, Washington has decided to secure a continual naval presence near the shores of that state. Our correspondent Leonid Rassadin reports from Cairo:

The existence of a secret program for U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation has become known in Arab capitals. It envisages a practice bombing strike on a special range in Israeli territory, in the Negev desert, by U.S. naval aircraft based in the Mediterranean Sea region: The landscape there precisely resembles the desert regions of Libya. In the view of Arab observers, all this bears witness to the continuing intensive U.S. preparations -- possibly jointly with Israel -- for an interventionist operation against sovereign Libya.

SYRIAN-SOVIET TALKS HELD ON ADVANCED MISSILES

LD041017 Kuwait KUNA in English 0849 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 4 (KUNA) -- Daily AL-QABAS Tuesday [4 February] quoted well-informed sources in Damascus as saying that talks between high ranking Soviet-Syrian officials took place recently on providing Syria with advanced anti-aircraft SAM-5 missiles. The talks were held following reports that the SAM-5 missiles were not strong enough to confront the most advanced equipments provided to the U.S. aircraft the paper added. The sources told the paper that Israeli warplanes were equipped with a limited number of such equipments which help in avoiding long-range missiles. The daily pointed out that detailed reports were prepared by a number of Soviet experts who were monitoring Israeli warplanes' activities in Syria.

SYRIAN CP ISSUES PRE-ELECTION STATEMENT

PM101235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the rubric "In the Fraternal Parties": "Syrian Communists' Stance"]

[Text] Damascus, 9 Feb -- On the eve of elections for the Syrian Arab Republic's supreme legislative body -- the People's Assembly -- the Syrian Communist Party [SCP] Central Committee has issued a statement devoted to this important event in the country's life.

The statement emphasizes that Syria takes a resolute stance of countering the plans of imperialism and Zionism, continues the struggle for the liberation of Arab territories occupied by Israel, rebuffs the attempts to impose defeatist deals on the Arabs, and advocates the implementation of Palestinian Arabs' legitimate aspirations for self-determination and the creation of an independent state. In this struggle it relies on the firm foundation of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union, which invariably supports the Syrian people politically and helps them to consolidate the national economic base.

The Syrian Arab Republic's principled foreign policy course, the document points out, generates an ardent response in the heart of every Syrian patriot. The SCP, in cooperation with all democratic and patriotic forces in the country, will continue to assist in consolidating the line chosen by Syria in the international arena and will continue to work on improving the democratic system, which is an important factor of success both in foreign policy and in satisfying society's economic and social needs, and in its advance along the progressive path.

The SCP Central Committee statement notes that great importance in this work is attached to the consolidation of the Syrian Progressive National Front, the enhancement of the latter's role and the role of every party belonging to it, the intensification of the Front's influence on the country's political, social, and economic life, and the expansion of cooperation within the framework at all levels and in various spheres.

ZAMYATIN DISCUSSES MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS

HK110224 Hong Kong AFP in English 0155 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Beirut, Feb 11 (AFP) -- Soviet Central Committee member Leonid Zamyatin denied in an interview published here Tuesday that the Soviet Union will allow a large number of Jews to emigrate to Israel. He said statements by Israeli leaders about a likely restoration of diplomatic relations and about an impending "exodus" of Soviet Jews were "lies" to discredit Moscow in the eyes of Arab countries.

The Central Committee's world information chief also accused Israel and the United States of "doing everything they can to torpedo" the proposed international conference to end the Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr Zamyatin told the Lebanese newspaper AL-SAFIR that Washington wanted the conference to be limited to endorsing "a separate bargain between Israel and certain Arab states". The Palestine Liberation Organization would be excluded from that deal, which would only grant the Palestinian Arabs "limited administrative autonomy". He said civil warfare continues in Lebanon because of "unscrupulous meddling by partners of the American-Israeli alliance." Mr Zamyatin called the fighting between Marxist factions in South Yemen "tragic". But it was a "domestic problem that should be settled without any foreign intervention."

'ARAFAT MEETS SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN

JN070949 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Feb 86 p 20

[Text] Amman -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with the Soviet ambassador in Amman yesterday and discussed with him the latest developments in the Palestine question as well as the peace talks.

SOVIET ENVOY TO JORDAN ALSO GIVEN OMAN POST

PM091924 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed "News Item"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Aleksandr Ivanovich Zinchuk, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, to act as the USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Sultanate of Oman also.

IZVESTIYA STAFFERS HIT U.S. SUPPORT FOR UNITA

PM041025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Report on telephone linkup between Boris Pilyatskin, deputy editor of IZVESTIYA's Asia, Africa, and Latin America Department; own correspondent in Washington Aleksandr Palladin; and own correspondent in Luanda Sergey Nikonov: "Washington and Luanda Calling: The Open Secret War Against Angola" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] "Patent Madness of Secret Interference" is how THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper headlined an article in which it cited the following words by President R. Reagan about supporting the terrorist organization the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]: "We consider that a secret operation will prove more useful to us and has greater chances of being successful at the moment than the overt operation proposed in Congress." What can be covert, concealed, secret, or disguised, the newspaper reasonably asked last December, about a policy proclaimed by the commander in chief?

Now that Washington has laid out the red carpet for the terrorist and killer Savimbi, all the i's have been dotted, so to speak. The UNITA boss has crossed the Atlantic to muster even greater financial and military assistance from his American protectors, who use the UNITA gangs to wage war against Angola and undermine its sovereignty.

Editorial Office: Washington claims that Savimbi is there in a private capacity. What itinerary has been arranged for him in the United States?

Washington: The usual ploy and hypocrisy of officials here is to take refuge in "diffidence." Suffice it to day that Savimbi, whom the president describes as a "freedom fighter," no less, was granted an audience with Reagan at the White House on Thursday. Prior to that, the UNITA terrorist, who is being driven around in a Cadillac escorted by a large group of American bodyguards, was received by Secretary of State G. Shultz and Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger. The crowded U.S. itinerary also includes lunch at the Cuban American Association (center for the gusanos, who fled Cuba after the revolution), calls on members of the Senate and the House, and a reception at the Heritage Foundation, the Republicans' think tank, whose recommendations often become the Washington policy course. Incidentally, I was informed by "foundation" staffer (G.) Berkowitz that the reception guest list includes State Department chief Shultz, his assistant Crocker, and CIA Director Casey. I also spoke to a representative of Black, Manafort, Stone, Kelly Inc., which has been given the job of looking after the guest from the Angolan bush. Located in Alexandria, on the opposite side of the Potomac from the U.S. capital, the firm specializes in lobbying. It is closely connected with the Republican Party and made a sizable contribution to R. Reagan's reelection as president. It has become known here that the firm will receive $600,000 for "service rendered" to Savimbi. "Who is paying the bill?" I asked a firm employee. "The money is transferred to our account from private sources," he said drily, cutting short our conversation.

Editorial Office: On 11 November 1975 under the leadership of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] -- the vanguard of the Angolan people -- the People's Republic of Angola was proclaimed. It was proclaimed amid the fire and smoke of fierce fighting: South African regular troops crossed the Namibian-Angolan border and headed for the capital. At the same time UNITA together with the National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA] stabbed the revolution in the back. The interventionists were repulsed, but aggression against Angola continues. The Angola press constantly carries reports about UNITA bandit actions. What, then, is the explanation for the fact that it has not yet been possible to eliminate the terrorist grouping, and what difficulties have to be overcome by the People's Armed Forces for the liberation of Angola in their struggle against it?

There are quite a few difficulties. First, the bandits usually set up their strongholds in sparsely populated and inaccessible areas or under cover of the South African Armed Forces. Second, after a raid the UNITA troops quickly leave the battlefield and slink off into the bush. The People's Armed Forces fighters, with their heavy weapons and equipment, are often physically incapable of pursuing the enemy into the bush and swamp. Finally -- and it is main point -- you should not forget the growing aid that Pretoria and Washington are giving UNITA.

Editorial Office: We already know about the financial aid. But how is the military aid given?

Luanda: South African instructors train UNITA troops at their bases in Namibia, from where they are dispatched into Angola equipped with the latest weapons, including weapons from NATO stores. If the bandits are running out of ammunition and food, they are quickly supplied with all they need by South African Air Force helicopters and transport planes.

Editorial Office: Could you give some examples to illustrate this?

Luanda: Last September, when a real danger developed that the UNITA main forces in Cuando Cubango Province would be destroyed, South African troops immediately intervened and attacked People's Armed Forces subunits. In that operation, as in others, South Africa used its air force and a special mercenary battalion.

Editorial Office: It turns out that from a military standpoint UNITA is effectively part of the South African armed forces.

Luanda: That firm opinion held by our Angolan comrades is based on numerous facts. UNITA and South Africa have repeatedly carried out joint operations against the People's Armed Forces. That happened in Cunene Province. The racists use the UNITA troops to carry out joint acts of sabotage -- blowing up power stations, fuel stores, bridges, and so forth.

Editorial Office: It is claimed in the West that a large part of Angola is under the control of the counterrevolutionary gangs...

Luanda: The republic covers more than 1.2 million square km, that is to say, an area almost equivalent to the territory of Portugal, Spain, France, and Britain taken together. According to those same Western propaganda figures, Savimbi has around 35,000 men "under arms." It thus turns out that there 0.03 bandits per square kilometer. I think that given such "forces" it is scarely possible even theoretically to control a large part of Angolan territory. Today the largest UNITA gangs are stationed in the south of the country, near the Namibian border, under the umbrella of South African Armed Forces.

Editorial Office: And what can be said about UNITA's political program?

Luanda: Savimbi himself says that he favors creating a "national unity government" and a so-called "black, independent Angola." In reality his entire program consists in imposing terror and eliminating the Angolan people's revolutionary gains, so as to turn the country into a puppet for the West and South Africa. As for the ordinary members of UNITA, I have frequently spoken to prisoners. Most of them are illiterate, frightened peasants enlisted into Savimbi's army by threats or force. Mostly they know nothing about the real situation in the country and the kind of tasks that the Angolan people are tackling. They are forbidden to listen to Luanda Radio on pain of death. For possession of a pamphlet or the JORNAL DE ANGOLA they are shot on the spot. It is only by violence and terror that the UNITA bosses are managing to replenish their battle-thinned ranks.

Editorial Office: How does the Angolan public see Savimbi's visit to Washington?

Luanda: I have a recent issue of the JORNAL DE ANGOLA with me. Its front page carries an article which describes it as an act of direct provocative intervention by the White House in sovereign Angola's internal affairs. And that is how the whole progressive Africa also sees Washington's venture.

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS SIERRA LEONE

Mukashev Attends Parade

PM291055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Military Parade"]

[Text] Freetown, 25 Jan -- A military parade has been held here in the context of measures connected with the inauguration of Joseph Saidu Momoh as president of Sierra Leone. The ceremony was attended by foreign guests. They included a USSR delegation headed by S. Mukashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Visit Ends

PM311321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] Freetown, 29 Jan -- The visit to Sierra Leone by a USSR delegation headed by S. Mukashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has ended. It attended events connected with the inauguration of Joseph Saidu Momoh as president of Sierra Leone.

During the visit the delegation was received by the head of state and had meetings with Sierra Leone's foreign minister, parliamentarians, and representatives of the public.

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PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE URGES TOTAL CW BAN

PM111740 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "For a Businesslike Approach. The Problem of Banning Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] The total elimination of chemical weapons -- a most dangerous and barbaric means of mass destruction -- by the end of the century is a component of the Soviet disarmament plan put forward in the 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

In terms of their casualty-producing effect, modern chemical weapons are comparable only with nuclear weapons. They are capable of killing huge masses of people, including civilians, and causing irreparable damage to the environment. Their use is fraught with long-term consequences, since certain toxins, by disrupting the genotype, pose a danger not only to the generation now alive, but to future generations.

The 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous, or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare outlawed the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons. Today this document, signed by more that 1000 nations, has become an integral part of international law. However, it did not prohibit the development [razrabotka], production, and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological weapons.

In 1969 the Soviet Union, together with the other socialist countries, submitted a draft convention on the total prohibition and elimination of the aforementioned types of arms to the United Nations. But because of the stance of the United States and its closest allies, who refused to agree to prohibiting chemical weapons, only the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction was agreed to. It was opened for signature in 1972 and entered into force 3 years later.

Only the exclusion of chemical weapons from national arsenals can provide a total guarantee that they will not be used. There is plenty to exclude. For instance, the United States possesses a mighty arsenal of chemical weapons -- over 3 million shells, aerial bombs, bombs [miny], and mines [fugasy], which total about 150,000 tons of chemical munitions stored at dumps belonging to the United States and its NATO allies. According to scientists' estimates, this is enough to destroy all life on the planet many times over. However, Washington is preparing to add to the existing arsenal a new variety of chemical arms, binary weapons, which are planned to be deployed primarily on the territory of a number of West European states. As in the case of the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, a selfish calculation can be seen here: averting a possible retaliatory strike from U.S. territory by exposing the allies to it.

Our country is making efforts to ensure progress along the road to the total prohibition of chemical weapons. In 1972, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries submitted a draft convention on the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons to the Geneva Disarmament Committee (now Conference) for consideration. In 1976, on the USSR's initiative, bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks began on this question. Considerable progress was made, including on the of verification [kontrol], but in 1980 the United States unilaterally broke them off.

At the same time, the United States took a position of creating artificial barriers in the path of the multilateral talks on banning chemical weapons that had started within the Disarmament Conference framework.

While our country proposed new solutions to unresolved questions, particularly in the document "Basic Provisions for the Development [razrabotka], Production, and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and Their Destruction" (1982) [title as published] and in a number of subsequent initiatives, the United States hardened its demands. It attempted, moreover, to undermine the accords already reached earlier at the talks. The calculation was as follows: Deadlock the talks, ascribe this to the USSR's unwillingness to agree on verification [kontrol], and start implementing the U.S.'s own $10 billion program for chemical rearmament.

Washington failed, however, to bring the multilateral talks to a complete standstill. The demands of the peoples that the planet be freed from the threat of chemical death gathered such force that the U.S. Administration was not only unable to openly ignore them, but was actually forced to speak out in support of them. Nonetheless, it is through its fault that the talks are progressing with intolerable slowness.

Under these circumstances, the chemical disarmament proposals put forward in M.S. Gorbachev's statement are of exceptionally great importance.

In the statement, the principled Soviet stance in favor of the total elimination of chemical weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture is aimed at achieving a solution as soon as possible and within a clearly defined timetable. Insofar as the participants in the talks have already agreed that chemical weapons and facilities for their production must be destroyed during the 10 years following the convention's entry into force (and, judging by the experience of previously concluded agreements, 2-3 years may pass between the time they are signed and the time they come into force), this means that the convention must be fully elaborated in the next 1-2 years.

The Soviet leader's statement offers opportunities for solving a number of the most complex problems which have arisen in the course of the talks.

The key task of the convention under preparation is to ensure the complete elimination of chemical weapons stockpiles. The Soviet Union is prepared to embark on this soon after the convention enters into force -- as soon as the necessary technical preparations are concluded.

The Soviet Union proposes tackling another major problem also -- a package of measures to stop the operations of and eliminate installations for the production of chemical weapons. The Soviet Union is prepared to ensure that production of these weapons is stopped and formulation of procedures for destroying the corresponding production base begins.

One of the questions on which serious differences emerged between the participants in the talks was the timetable for the announcement of the location of enterprises producing chemical weapons. This is needed, in particular, in order to verify [kontrol] the nonfunctioning and subsequent elimination of the installations. The statement notes the USSR's readiness to ensure the timely implementation of this measure. Specific timetables for the announcement could be agreed on at the Geneva conference; it must be a question of sensible timetables that are justified from the technical viewpoint.

The statement particularly stresses the fact that the measures proposed by the Soviet Union for ending the production of chemical weapons and eliminating them and the industrial base for their manufacture must be implemented under strict control [kontrol], including international on-site inspections [proverki na mestakh].

The approach to resolving the questions of monitoring [kontrol] the destruction of chemical weapons stocks and the production, for authorized purposes, of the most dangerous category of chemicals, lethal supertoxins, has already been agreed on in principle.

However, the questions of monitoring [kontrol] the ending of chemical weapons production and the destruction of chemical weapons enterprises have not been resolved. U.S. representatives are speculating on this in particular. The Soviet proposals cut the ground out from under the idle arguments about Soviet reluctance to agree to effective inspection [proverka].

It is important to implement the opportunities opened up by M.S. Gorbachev's statement during specific, businesslike talks at the Disarmament Conference. The bilateral Soviet-U.S. consultations on chemical weapons that are being held in accordance with the decision adopted at the summit between the Soviet and U.S. leaders could also make a considerable contribution to achieving a multilateral accord.

While advancing the complete prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons as the main task, the Soviet Union is also suggesting that several partial, intermediate steps be taken to lead to the same goal. The prevention of further chemical weapons proliferation would be of considerable benefit. The implementation of the proposals put forward in the statement for reaching a multilateral agreement on not transferring chemical weapons to anyone and on not deploying them on the territory of other states would make it possible to prevent that. The Soviet Union has always strictly adhered to these principles and urges others to display the same restraint. The USSR is prepared to hold consultations on the question of the nonproliferation of chemical weapons with all interested states.

With the other socialist countries, the Soviet Union is suggesting to the NATO countries that they agree on Europe's total liberation from chemical weapons. It supports the proposal of the GDR and the CSSR on the creation of a zone free from these weapons in central Europe and the proposal of Bulgaria and Romania on the creation of a similar zone in the Balkans.

The statute on the export from the Soviet Union of dual-purpose chemicals -- that is, chemicals which have a civilian function, but could be used for the production of chemical weapons -- approved by the Soviet Government in late January is in the mainstream of efforts for the nonproliferation of chemical weapons. The statute stipulates that deliveries of these chemicals can be made only with the existence of guarantees from the importing countries that these chemicals will not be used directly or indirectly to produce chemical weapons. The statute is of a universal nature. It applies to deliveries to any countries and regions and does not infringe on the economic interests and requirements of the importing states.

For our country the prohibition of chemical weapons remains an important priority task. The socialist states have the right to expect and, in the political and moral sense, to demand from the NATO states a serious, businesslike approach toward this, one of the most important problems for mankind's destiny.

GORBACHEV REPLY RELAYED TO SWEDISH GROUP

LD111809 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

["The Common Task of Mankind" -- TASS headline; quotation marks as received]

[Text] Stockholm, February 11 TASS -- A group of activists of Swedish anti-war organisations and groups which had been set up on a professional basis visited the Embassy of the USSR in Sweden today. Their visit was made in connection with a significant event.

Boris Pankin, the ambassador of the USSR to Sweden, acquainted the peace campaigners with a reply by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to their letter which had expressed profound concern of the Swedish professional groups, which come out in favour of peace, against nuclear weapons, over the mounting nuclear arms race, and had drawn special attention to disastrous consequences which the use of nuclear weapons would bring to the world civilisation.

On behalf of 21 Swedish professional groups the letter emphasized an urgent necessity to conclude a treaty on a total ban on nuclear weapon testing, which would be a substantial headway on the way to the establishment of peace and security throughout the world.

During the meeting the Soviet ambassador informed the representatives of the Swedish peace-loving public that it was with interest that Mikhail Gorbachev had acquainted himself with the letter, and had requested to convey the following to its authors:

"Removal of the threat of nuclear war is a task facing the entire population of the globe. The problem of banning nuclear arms must be resolved thoroughly, in a cardinal way. This is why the Soviet Union proposes a concrete programme of the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere with the simultaneous establishment of an international ban on the development, testing and deployment of space strike arms. If nuclear weapons are eliminated and a universal agreement is achieved that they will not re-emerge, the material base for nuclear war will thus be destroyed.

The ending of nuclear weapon tests is the key that opens the door to a world free from the most horrible weapons of mass destruction for without tests the arsenals of nuclear weapons will not be upgraded and will soon start deactivating. The time factor is very important in this now, as in no other matter. The Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions has been in effect for over six months now. The participants in the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly, millions of people the world over welcomed that step of the Soviet Union as a bold undertaking, a good example for practical transition to the ending of nuclear tests everywhere and by all nuclear powers starting, naturally, with the USSR and the USA.

The turning of the moratorium into a bilateral Soviet-American one, would mean implementing the arrangements reached during the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan. The Soviet Union cannot show endlessly unilateral restraint in the matter, particularly in conditions when the United States, which made a greater number of nuclear explosions than the USSR as it is, continues making them even after the Soviet Union disrupted its programme of nuclear testing. The present situation requires insistently that representatives of the USSR, the USA, and Great Britain get down to a negotiating table to conclude the tripartite talks disrupted by Washington, the talks to draft the text of a treaty on a total ban on nuclear tests in all the media. The Soviet Union is prepared to embark on such talks also in the framework of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament in which all the five nuclear powers would take part.

People in the U.S.S.R. share the view held by the Swedish professional groups that reliable means exist already today to ensure verification of the termination of nuclear tests. At the same time, in order to remove all grounds for the allegations on the existing difficulties of verification, the U.S.S.R. agrees to employing, along with national technical means, international procedures -- including on-site inspections whenever necessary.

The U.S.S.R. expressed, in particular, its readiness to make use of the proposal by the leaders of six states of various continents, including Sweden, to set up in their territories special stations to monitor the fulfillment of the accord on halting nuclear tests. In a word, verification cannot be a hurdle to a complete and universal prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

The anti-war and anti-nuclear movements and organisations are called upon to play a major role in mobilizing the public opinion against the nuclear arms race and for a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon tests.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet ambassador said, wishes the participants in the Swedish professional groups great success in their noble activity for the benefit of peace and disarmament.

The activists of the Swedish groups, uniting physicians, engineers, lawyers, scientists, journalists, actors, writers and representatives of other professions, expressed gratitude and deep satisfaction with the fact that the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev responded to their letter. They stressed that the content of the response by the Soviet leader coincides in many respects with those thoughts and views by which the Swedish professional groups are guided in their activity.

They expressed the conviction that, despite the complex international situation, there exist opportunities for preventing nuclear war. In this connection the representatives of the public emphasized special importance of Mikhail Gorbachev's statement dated January 15, this year. The document, which contains a program for the elimination of nuclear weapons before the year 2000 and other peaceful initiatives, accords with the aspirations and interests of all the peoples and therefore it is highly appreciated in all countries of the world, including Sweden. They pointed out that Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to their letter is yet another convincing illustration that the USSR highly values the movement of the peace and anti-war forces of various states, including the activities of Swedish professional groups.

During the conversation the activists said that they had sent similar letters to the leaders of the other nuclear powers from whom they likewise hope to get replies.

"We have taken Mikhail Gorbachev's reply with great gratification", Mirre Hofsten, secretary of the "Writers of Sweden Against Nuclear Weapons" organisation, has said in an interview with a TASS correspondent. "It has once again clearly and extensively set out the USSR's stand on such vitally important problem as ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear annihilation. At the same time it gives a high appraisal of our contribution to the struggle for peace, against nuclear weapons, which is a great stimulus to the intensification of our efforts in this direction. "In the coming days we shall attentively acquaint ourselves with the Soviet leader's reply and shall work out a further program for the activities of our groups in the interests of peace and security on earth", Mirre Hofsten emphasized.

U.S. CHARGED WITH ABM TREATY VIOLATIONS

LD111636 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb (TASS) -- A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists was held in the USSR Foreign Ministry press center today at which Vladimir Morozov, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry press department, touched on certain topical aspects of the current international situation.

He drew attention to U.S. violations of the 1972 ABM Treaty which have become more marked of late. One of these violations, V. Morozov said, is the deployment of major radar stations. Such a station has been deployed on Shemya island in the Aleutians, during construction of which elements tested with the goal of antimissile defense were used, in violation of accords. Construction of a Pave Paws type phased-array radar station is also under way in Greenland, which is a plain violation of Article 6 of the ABM Treaty.

The work which is going on now in the United States with the special purpose of creating [sozdaniye] models of space weapons, to be followed by their appearance [poyavleniye] and deployment is contrary to this treaty.

V. Morozov noted that recently the policy of violating the ABM Treaty has been taken up by the Government of Great Britain. This is shown by the plans to deploy a new U.S. radar station in the Fylingdales Moor region of North Yorkshire. Although, to cover up these plans it is asserted that what is being planned is a modernization of the U.S. radar station which already exists there, in reality it is a question of the construction of a project which is new in principle and of a totally new design.

Thus, if these plans are implemented, the Government of Great Britain would be directly involved in the violation of the 1972 ABM Treaty.

Concerning the issue of Soviet-Swedish relations, V. Morozov stressed that the Soviet Union attaches great importance to the maintenance of good-neighborly relations with Sweden. On the whole, the balance of relations between our countries is a positive one, he said.

However, at the same time there are negative phenomena in Soviet-Swedish relations. At a time when noticeable changes for the better have taken shape in bilateral relations and when important visits and exchanges fostering the maintenance of a peaceful situation in Europe as a whole are to come, right-wing forces have launched a fresh anti-Soviet campaign. Swedish military circles are striving to intimidate the population with the notorious "Soviet threat". Such actions, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed, act as a brake on the process of deepening relations between the two countries.

U.S. GENEVA ENVOY REPEATS 'TRITE' ARGUMENTS

LD111903 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1810 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Geneva, 11 Feb (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports:

The conference on disarmament today adopted a report by the special committee on chemical weapons and charged it with continuing its work, intending that a draft of a corresponding convention be prepared as soon as possible. Stanislaw Turbanski (PPR) [Polish People's Republic], chairman of the committee in 1985, emphasized when presenting the report the importance of the proposals on this question contained in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of 15 January, which will facilitate this work.

Against the overall background of speeches at the conferences, the statement today by Donald Lowitz, head of the U.S. delegation, was particularly disappointing. True, at first he also noted that the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and other events of recent months inspire new hopes. However, from his remarks on specific issues of the agenda it became clear that the U.S. delegation does not have anything in view which might speed up the talks.

So, in Lowitz's words, a ban on nuclear testing may be reached only in the framework of significant reductions of nuclear arsenals and meanwhile, the continuation of explosions, he says, is necessary to safeguard the security of the Western alliance. Having acknowledged that the SDI program causes anxiety among conference participants, the U.S. representative found nothing better than to repeat Washington's trite arguments in justification of the "star wars" project, accompanying this with attacks directed at the policy of the Soviet Union.

CHERVOV, MIKHAYLOV DELINEATE SOVIET STANDS

LD111350 Hamburg DPA in German 1309 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Berlin/Bonn, 11 Feb (DPA) -- The Soviet Union is allegedly prepared to destroy all of its medium-range missiles targeted on Western Europe, if NATO is prepared for a similar step. "We do not intend to deploy these missiles in some other place. They will be destroyed under careful and reliable national and international inspection, including on-site inspections," Colonel General Nikolay F. Chervov, department chief of the Soviet General Staff, said during a television press conference of Sender Freies Berlin, to be televised on ARD Television tomorrow.

"There will be no traps, no obstacles, no deception," the high-ranking general staff officer said. Furthermore, Chervov who had come specially to the SFB studio, said, not only the medium-range missiles, but also the launching pads and relevant infrastructure would be removed.

Soviet Army Admits Space Research

The Soviet side has not admitted publicly that it also conducts research in the area of military space weapons and has relevant laboratories. In an interview with the military journal LOYAL to be published tomorrow the spokesman of the General Staff of the Soviet Army, Lieutenant General Konstantin Mikhaylov, said that his country conducts research in the area of "cosmic reconnaissance, navigation, and communications" and will continue to perfect this. There is, however, no similarity between this research and the U.S. SDI project. "We have no programs for the creation of offensive space weapons," the Soviet general said.

BOGACHEV ASSESSES DANGERS OF SDI SYSTEMS

LD111927 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 11 Feb 86

["Outer Space Without Weapons" program presented by All-Union Radio commentator Konstantin Patsyuk with TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] [Patsyuk] Hello, comrades. Nearly a month has elapsed since the day when our country made fresh peace initiatives. It can be said without exaggeration that they have literally riveted the attention of the world public, the mass media, and the statesmen of various countries. As was said in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's replies to questions from L'HUMANITE, these proposals are a moment of truth, so to speak. Our country has always acted openly in the international arena and this time, too, the Soviet Union, demonstrating its adherence to peace and its passionate desire to preserve terrestrial civilization from catastrophe, is proposing a program for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons throughout the world. This program does not give any advantages to the Soviet Union, nor does it pursue the aim of outwitting others. It is a realistic, constructive, and broad-scale program calculated for a definite period of time -- 15 years. It forces our negotiations partners to show their worth and to reveal what aims their policy pursues in reality.

Yes, the moment of truth has arrived. Declamatory statements alone are not enough, specific steps to peace are needed. And the Soviet Union has already taken and is taking such steps. In particular, it has extended the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions to 31 March. So far, the United States has not followed our example. But surely, if it did this, that would reliably close the channels to the further development of nuclear weapons.

As you know, it was not possible to reach agreement at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva on real disarmament and primarily, on the central problem of nuclear and space weapons. One of the main reasons for this was the U.S.'s unwillingness to renounce the "star wars" program. Has the U.S. position on this question changed since then? I invite TASS observer on military affairs Vladimir Ivanovich Bogachev to speak.

[Bogachev] Yes, unfortunately it must be said that the position of the United States on problems of nonmilitarization of space has not undergone any change. A few words on the history of this question: The first Soviet satellite opened the road to space for mankind in 1957. Despite the sometimes turbulent events on earth, for 29 years near-earth space has remained practically free of strike weapons. This is a consoling fact which, in the current alarming situation in the world, maintains the hope that eventually it will be possible to close the door forever to weapons in space. For it is much simpler to reach agreement on a ban on siting [razmeshcheniye] weapons where there are none yet, than to later work for agreement on removing an arms system already deployed [razvernutaya] in near-earth space. In the past 3 years the prospects of using space only for peaceful purposes has been threatened by Washington's plans to deploy [razvernut] thousands of units of strike weapons in near-earth space. It is a question of the U.S. "star wars" plans.

From the first days of the space age, the Soviet Union has based its policy on the fact that space and the arms race are incompatible, that outer space must be an arena for peaceful, fruitful cooperation, not military confrontation.

[Patsyuk] Vladimir Ivanovich, suppose we take the technical aspect of the militarization of space? What dangers are there?

[Bogachev] To operate any equipment in space, to maintain it in the necessary working conditions, is much more complex than controlling similar systems on earth. It is extremely difficult and sometimes impossible to eliminate or even to simply detect faults in a complex system sited hundreds of kilometers from the earth's surface.

An accident on a peaceful satellite or a spacecraft, as occurred with the U.S. Challenger, is an extremely unpleasant event. An accident with a system of space strike weapons, however, will be fraught with world catastrophe. For the electronic computers for combat operation, scientists reckon, could -- bypassing people -- activate the system of strike weapons in space. Even the priming [perekhod na predboyevoy rezhim] of weapons in space -- say as a result of a magnetic storm -- may be taken by the other side as preparation for a first strike, with all the ensuing consequences. In brief, strike weapons in space may accidentally provoke nuclear war simply through faults in the computer or defects in some unit of the complex and extremely vulnerable [uyazvimoye] equipment.

[Patsyuk] As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stressed in his replies to questions from L'HUMANITE, militarization of space may lead to vitally important decisions on questions of war and peace having to be entrusted to computers, to automatons, making human civilization a hostage of machines.

[Bogachev] The situation really will become serious. The U.S. space weapons may misfire and shoot in quite another direction from where the Pentagon would like.

The British writer Mary Shelley once wrote a fantastic novel about a scientist who tried to create the perfect man in the laboratory and instead produced a manlike monster. Eventually the monster, called Frankenstein, killed its own creator. It cannot be ruled out that the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, or the space strategy of lethal risk, as it is also called, will become a Frankenstein toward its initiators. The risk of war as a result of technical faults is multiplied by political factors, the military-strategic guidelines of the Pentagon. In March 1983 the U.S. Administration came out with plans to create [sozdaniye] a wide scale space-based ABM system. As is now becoming clear, Washington intends to deploy [razvernut] a seventier cupola of strike space weapons above the territory of the socialist countries. This weapons system may give some hotheads in Washington the dangerous illusion that a first strike can be dealt from beneath a space shield, averting, or at least weakening a return strike in revenge for the aggression.

[Patsyuk] I recall that the conclusions arrived at by many authoritative scientists are fairly unambiguous. Washington's planned space strike weapons will not be able to ensure reliable protection against offensive missiles.

[Bogachev] Of course, an antimissile umbrella for the United States will inevitably have holes. On the other hand, any high-accuracy weapon using huge amounts of energy -- and it is these characteristics that laser beam systems will possess -- will be able to be used to destroy ground targets. There is every reason to suppose that the Pentagon intends to use space strike weapons primarily for mounting a first, disarming strike and not for protecting its own territory against offensive missiles. So, Washington's assurances that the Strategic Defense Initiative has the aim of making nuclear weapons obsolete and impotent is designed for simpletons.

[Patsyuk] Vladimir Ivanovich, will you please say something about the gist of the Soviet proposals for preventing the militarization of space.

[Bogachev] We are countering the U.S. "star wars" program with a program of "star peace." It is an important component part of the Soviet program for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons by the end of the 20th century. Instead of spending the next 10-15 years on the creation [sozdaniye] of new space weapons, which are extremely dangerous to mankind, as Washington is proposing, the Soviet program proposes beginning the destruction of these nuclear arms themselves and finally reducing their arsenals to zero. A reduction of nuclear weapons is possible only if the Soviet Union and the United States mutually renounce the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and development of space strike weapons. The Soviet program envisions that, as soon as the first stage of its implementation, the Soviet Union and the United States should undertake the appropriate obligations of nonmilitarization of outer space. As the Soviet Union has repeatedly warned, the creation of space strike weapons will dash the hopes of cutting arms on earth.

[Patsyuk] That is the first step. And what will be done further?

[Bogachev] In the second stage which, as you know, Konstantin Nikolayevich, will continue for 5-7 years, the Soviet-U.S. agreement on banning nuclear space weapons should become multilateral. The leading industrial powers should join it without fail because preventing the unleashing of an arms race in space means removing the obstacles to deep cuts in nuclear armaments. To lock the door to a solution of the problem of nonmilitarization of space from the very start signifies ruling out the possibility of halting the arms race on earth.

[Bogachev] The problems of monitoring have always served as a pretext for the U.S. side to wreck the most varied agreements on arms limitation and cuts. Our side has thrown off the customary logic of the arms race, has demonstrated new approaches to solving disarmament problems in the nuclear age. In the field of verification of agreement on banning space arms, the Soviet Union is ready for the strictest monitoring, including on-the-spot checks and even inspection of the appropriate laboratories.

[Patsyuk] How is one to explain the objective, organic interrelation of the problem of arms cuts with a solution to the question of nonmilitarization of space; an interrelation on which the Soviet Union insists?

[Bogachev] That question can be answered briefly: It is meaningless to cut armaments on a comparatively limited area of the earth's surface and at the same time, to give the green light to still more dangerous arms systems in truly limitless outer space. What is the sense of limiting arms on earth and deploying them over our heads?

The U.S. Administration, creating space weapons for an antimissile defense, is, simultaneously, intensively working on the creation of new strategic mass-strike weapons: MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, Midgetman, sea-based Trident-2 missiles, B-1 and Stealth aircraft, and other nuclear arms systems. In the past 5 years the U.S. Administration has not taken a single, I repeat, a single practical step which can be appraised as a gesture of goodwill, as a desire by Washington to find a solution to the problem of curbing the arms race.

[Patsyuk] It is evident that implementation of the U.S. "star wars" program will affect the status of the still operational Soviet-U.S. agreements on limitation and reduction of armaments.

[Bogachev] Quite right. Although the program for the creation of a widescale U.S. antimissile defense is a chimera, in which only a handful of enthusiasts believe, the work on it, as was noted by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, will bring very serious consequences in the near future. The U.S. "star wars" program is a flagrant violation of the Soviet U.S. treaty of 1972 on limitation of ABM systems and the international agreement on principles of states' activity in space. Implementing this program, Washington is consciously embarking on wrecking the talks being held and on cancelling all existing agreements on limiting armaments. In the near future the whole world could find itself in a situation with an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, strategic chaos, and most dangerous undermining of stability. The risk of catastrophic nuclear war would sharply grow. If the gates are nevertheless opened for weapons in space, the scale of military rivalry would grow immeasurably and the arms race would acquire an irreversible character.

[Patsyuk] Have we any basis for believing that the U.S. side will adhere -- not in words, but in deeds -- to its obligations to prevent an arms race in space?

[Bogachev] An entirely legitimate question. Policy must be built on realistic foundations and the Soviet Union -- like the socialist states -- is obliged to propose a radical and at the same time, realistic alternative to nuclear war. At the beginning of the broadcast it was mentioned that the moment which has arrived in the international situation is the moment of truth. We are addressing our peace proposals not only to governments, but to peoples.

[Patsyuk] As Vladimir Ilich Lenin once said, peoples must be helped to intervene in questions of war and peace; these words are just as topical today. That ends our broadcast. It was conducted by Konstantin Patsyuk. Goodbye, comrades, and all the best.

MORATORIUM, VERIFICATION PROPOSALS VIEWED

LD110312 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Studio discussion with unidentified presenter and Soviet "experts" Grigoriy Khozin and Lev Semeyko]

[Text] [Presenter] On the 15th of last month Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made a statement proposing the abolition of nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles in three stages over a period of 15 years, coupled with a ban on the development of space strike weapons. The Soviet plan proposes that during the very first stage, that is within 5 to 8 years, the Soviet Union and the United States halve their nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territories and accept a ban on the militarization of space.

The Soviet Union links the reduction in nuclear arms with a ban on space weapons because otherwise disarmament is impossible. How could agreement possibly be reached on abolishing nuclear weapons while, at the same time dangerous and expensive new weapons systems are being developed? In addition to this the Soviet Union has extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. Why has Moscow taken this step and what has been Washington's reaction to it? With me in the studio today to discuss these and other questions are two Soviet experts, Grigoriy Khozin and Lev Semeyko. Lev Semeyko speaks first:

[Semeyko] The Soviet invitation to join this moratorium, has evoked a very disappointing reaction from Washington. The American objection to this is that the Soviet Union allegedly has carried out more explosions than the United States did before Moscow announced its moratorium. This is just not so. According to SIPRI, the Stockholm-based international peace research institute, by January of this year when the Soviet Union extended its moratorium the United States had set off 772 blasts, the Soviet Union 556. However, it is not just a matter of these figures. The Soviet nuclear disarmament program calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons altogether. Why, in that case, test new weapons of nuclear destruction?

[Presenter] There was a time when the United States was urging a moratorium on nuclear tests. Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] When we examine the evolution of American strategic weapons we find that at certain points the United States urged stopping nuclear tests and embarking on a vigorous dialogue. Why? Because the United States was completing a certain phase of its testing, having tested certain new systems. Having thus gained an advantage, it wanted to consolidate it. Today its unwillingness to join the Soviet moratorium is linked above all with its work on what it calls its Strategic Defense Initiative, SDI. One of the elements in this system is again to be a nuclear weapon, in one of its modifications. Charges for such devices are now being tested at the Nevada proving ground and they are to become a mainstay of the entire "star wars" program by means of which it is hoped to attain military superiority.

[Presenter] It is thus a fact that the Soviet Union has carried out fewer nuclear explosions than the United States has. But perhaps it is thought in Washington that the Soviet Union has concluded a certain series of nuclear tests which the United States hasn't yet carried out. Back to Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] The nuclear tests carried out by the Soviet Union have, even according to Western experts, nothing to do with space-based weapons. Besides the Soviet Union has now conducted no explosions for almost a year. There is thus an obvious imbalance.

While the Soviet Union last month extended its moratorium for another 3 months, the United States continues its explosions and is working to develop new nuclear weapons for use in space. Obviously this cannot continue indefinitely.

[Presenter] The nuclear devices now being tested in Nevada could become a basis for qualitatively new weapons under the SDI program. How can this possibly be reconciled with the American Administration's statements that SDI will make nuclear weapons obsolescent and that the system will contain no nuclear weapons? Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] I have carefully studied the American defense department's report on SDI progress which covers all the components of the program. It is clear that the emphasis is on the nuclear components. What is envisaged is the development of nuclear space weapons so powerful that they could be used only for offensive purposes. They could serve for a first disarming strike from space at ground targets with the speed of light because the target would in this case be struck not by the nuclear blast itself, but by its directed energy. Some Western experts call such weapons non-nuclear. Wrong. This is merely a modification of a directed nuclear weapon.

[Presenter] In the nuclear disarmament program proposed by the Soviet Union, Western experts have noted the Soviet approach to verification problems. Here is Lev Semeyko:

[Semeyko] Our approach to the problem may be summed up as follows: The scale of verification depends on the scale of disarmament. In other words if there is $1 worth of disarmament, there must be $1 worth of verification. If there is a million dollars worth of disarmament, there must be corresponding verification. Given the scale of disarmament we propose, verification would be very expensive. Take intermediate range missiles. We are in favor of international commissions coming to observe the scrapping of the warheads and bodies of SS-20 missiles. For our part we would like to be present at similar procedures in the United States and then, at subsequent stages of disarmament in Britain and France. We also take a favourable view of on-site verification.

[Presenter] Now Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] Verification has always been a sticky point in discussions on arms limitation and reduction. This is a grim heritage of the days of the cold war when the United States on the pretext of verification sought to unilaterally obtain secret information. It is therefore not difficult to see why at certain stages some countries, including the Soviet Union, objected to attempts to force on-site inspection on them. This would have violated the national interests of these countries. But you must also remember that the Soviet Union is just as interested in verification as other countries are and there are no impartial reasons for reproaching us on this point. These reproaches were made in situations in which we were being asked to accept on-site inspection while the other side either evaded such procedures or tried to replace them with something else. For example the United States declared it was prepared to invite the Soviet Union to witness underground nuclear tests although verification should have covered other sites which could have been the source of a threat to us.

[Presenter] What exactly is said in the Soviet statement with respect to verification? Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] The Soviet Union considers that present day national technical facilities are sufficient to demonstrate compliance with treaty provisions. But we are prepared to accept on-site inspection to confirm that no combat system, or system that could be considered such, will say, rise into space. We are also prepared to reach agreement on any other additional verification procedures.

This also applies to fundamentally new weapons systems, laser weapons and beam weapons. This being so, Western assertions that the verification problem is an obstacle to agreement are absolutely groundless.

[Presenter] And there we conclude this program about the Soviet program of nuclear disarmament. Our guest speakers were the Soviet experts, Grigoriy Khozin and Lev Semeyko.

U.S. STANCE ON VERIFICATION SEEN AS 'GROUNDLESS'

LD311530 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 31 Jan 86

["Arguments by Opponents of Nuclear Disarmament Untenable" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 31 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: World public opinion sees the reality of the prospect of completely eliminating nuclear weapons all over the globe in the next 15 years in that the Soviet Union's disarmament programs sets forth a concrete plan of stage-by-stage steps towards the goal and provides for strict control over their implementation.

In the copious flow of commentary on the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that has spelled out this program, much attention is being paid to this organic link between practical actions and verification. THE WASHINGTON POST today described the "approach to verification" as "the most intriguing aspect" of the latest Soviet proposals.

The paper urged the U.S. Administration to consider the "substantive terms" suggested by Moscow in a positive spirit.

The Soviet Union stands for effective verification in all fields of arms limitation and reduction and disarmament. Take, for example, an end to all nuclear blasts, which is an important practical step to eliminating nuclear weapons. The American side constantly claimed in the past that the verification problem was an obstacle to signing an agreement on a bilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. Now such claims are totally groundless. The USSR has declared plainly that it is prepared to employ any forms of verification, including national-technical means, international monitoring arrangements and on-site inspections. The Soviet Union's readiness for on-site inspections, the London TIMES commented, had removed what the West had considered the most tangible objection to an end to nuclear testing.

The Soviet Union's position of principle in the issue of outer space is well-known. Space should be kept peaceful and there should be no strike arms deployed there. Let this be verified by the strictest control, including the opening of corresponding laboratories to inspection, the Soviet Union says.

There is no verification problem also as regards a ban on chemical weapons and their destruction. In this field too the USSR stands for the strictest control, including international on-site inspections.

Or take, for instance, the Vienna talks where the Soviet Union has also proposed adequate verification measures both to monitor the reduction of troops and armaments and to make certain that the levels of armed forces do not increase. Apart from the national technical means of verification, the Soviet Union suggests a whole number of extra other effective measures to ensure reliable control over compliance with a future agreement.

So one cannot fail to see that the Soviet Union, suggesting a direct way out of the present nuclear blind alley, backs the proposal up with substantial practical actions. The peoples expect the United States to take a constructive and businesslike stand.

INF ACCORD POSSIBLE WITHOUT SPACE ARMS CONNECTION

LD071548 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 7 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: The new Soviet proposal concerning medium-range missiles, which is part of the Soviet Union's comprehensive program for ridding mankind of the nuclear threat, has evoked particularly broad response in Europe.

The Soviet Union's readiness to eliminate its medium-range missiles in the European zone if such missiles are eliminated also by the United States is a first step to delivering the continent from nuclear weapons.

It will not be an exaggeration to say that there is now every possibility to reach agreement on this problem. The only thing needed is the political will of the other side, that is the United States.

Talking with U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy Thursday Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev gave a further explanation of the Soviet position, which undoubtedly can make it easier to come to terms. He said that the Soviet proposal on the elimination of all Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone, just as the proposal for an end to nuclear explosions, is not accompanied by any conditions, except for Britain's and France's pledge not to build up their corresponding nuclear arms and for the U.S. to undertake not to transfer such weapons to their countries.

It can be concluded from this that an agreement on medium-range missiles can be reached without a connection with the problem of space and strategic arms. The only thing needed is for the United States to make a commitment not to supply its strategic missiles and medium-range missiles to other countries and for Britain and France to refrain from beefing up their corresponding nuclear arsenals. Britain and France will join the process of nuclear disarmament later, when all nuclear powers reduce their tactical nuclear systems.

The Soviet Union maintains a consistent course aimed at liberating Europe from nuclear weapons, but the so-called program for NATO's nuclear re-armament, which has been imposed by Washington, has led to a situation where hundreds of American Pershing-2 and cruise missiles are now on station in several West European countries. Deliveries of such first-strike weapons to Western Europe are continuing, which is only aggravating tension even further.

The new Soviet initiative on medium-range missiles opens up great possibilities. "If we managed to eliminate the Soviet and American medium-range missiles on our continent without delay or burdening the matter with other problems," said Mikhail Gorbachev, "we would unravel what is perhaps one of the complicated tangles in present-day world politics and would significantly clear the way toward a radical reduction in nuclear weapons and eventually to complete elimination thereof."

SPACE ARMS GROUP IN GENEVA HOLDS MEETING

LD111502 Moscow TASS in English 1455 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 11 TASS -- The group on space arms at Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons held a meeting here today.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM111133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Vladimir Mikhaylov "International Review"]

[Text] Events, even those of a week, sometimes have a deep roots in the past. Up until 6 August 1945, when the bomb dropped from an American aircraft wiped Hiroshima off the face of the earth, mankind thought itself immortal. Not even the most dreadful epidemics and wars deprived it of the chance of rebirth. Now the unimaginable had become possible. Fortunately, it is not just the techniques of destruction that are being developed. There are powerful forces in the world which are capable of giving mankind back its immortality. They way to this is mapped out by the program drawn up by the motherland of socialism to free the earth of weapons of mass destruction by the end of our century. The reality of this path is being realized in a difficult, complex struggle, as evidenced by many events in international life this week.

Ahead

The problem of mankind's survival in the nuclear age and of the need to abandon the mentality, habits, and rules of the stone age has once again been raised in all its magnitude in M.S. Gorbachev's recently published replies to L'HUMANITE's questions. Imbued with profound conviction as to the reality of ending the crazy arms race, these replies will undoubtedly contribute to the essential sharp turn so needed in international affairs. This is essentially a practical manifestation of the Soviet Union's immutable readiness to be worthy of the greatest responsibility and to help in every possible way to carry out this historic task. The USSR is once again demonstrating that for it there is no loftier mission than that of defending peace and curbing the forces of aggression and militarism in the name of the life of the present generation and future generations.

The 3d Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba -- the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere -- was held this week. The congress showed the great successes of this former U.S. semicolony in various spheres of social life. Socialist Cuba, despite the continuing imperialist blockade, is a good example for the countries of that region, a state carrying on multifaceted international activity in favor of peace, socialism, and social progress.

The 19th Communist Party of Ireland Congress took place. It was held under slogans of countering Ireland's being drawn into NATO's orbit, struggling for peace and social progress, and uniting democratic forces against the supremacy of British imperialism.

The political situation in France before the parliamentary election is complex and acute. The Communists have issued a call to "bar the way of right-wing forces." "Voting for the Communists," a French Communist Party Central Committee resolution states, "Is an assertion that a different policy is possible. A policy of national independence, peace, and disarmament, which will put France among the front ranks of those who promote talks, the establishment of a new climate of international detente, and the stopping of the arms race."

Portugal's Communists raised their voice against the real threat to the gains of the 1974 antifascist revolution in the country on the part of reaction at their party's extraordinary congress. The first round of the presidential election was won by D. Freitas do Amaral, a representative of right-wing conservative circles.

In order to defeat him in the final round of the election, the Communists decided to cast their votes for another, also not the best, candidate -- M. Soares, former leader of the Socialist Party. There, too, in Portugal, democracy, social progress, and peace are at the focus of the struggle.

...The UK Labor Party's National Executive Committee issued a special statement entitled "Labor's Reply to M.S. Gorbachev's Disarmament Proposals." "We consider these proposals extremely important and weighty," the statement reads. "We welcome the call for full nuclear disarmament...However, we are concerned at the fact that these proposals will be threatened by research and development and the testing and deployment of systems within the framework of the 'Strategic Defense Initiative [SDI]. Therefore we confirm that we categorically oppose the 'star wars' program.."

The position of J. Rau, the Social Democratic Party of Germany's candidate for the FRG chancellorship, is indicative of the sentiments of West European politicians, above all, those in the social democratic movement. After his recent visit to Moscow he set out across the ocean to familiarize himself with Washington's reaction to the Soviet peace initiatives. On his arrival there J. Rau advocated the start of a new stage of the policy of detente. "Specific measures must be discussed," he declared, "at the second Soviet-U.S. summit meeting...Like other Europeans, we believe that space must not be a place for an arms buildup. We on earth have more than enough to do in the disarmament sphere."

Of course, it could be said that Labor is "still" not in power in London, nor the Social Democrats in Bonn. However, they detect quite clearly the sentiments of their countries' population. Following the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles and the adoption of the "star wars" program in the United States, the allergy to all kinds of "arms upgrading," whether on earth or in space, has spread to the majority of the population of Western Europe.

Disguise or...

A few days ago a scandal erupted in Bonn over a banquet in honor of a high-level guest from across the ocean. At the table in the U.S. ambassador's residence and in the presence of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State J. Whitehead, H. Teltschik, adviser to the chancellor, took the liberty of being unforgivably frank. He declared for all to hear that an agreement with the United States on FRG involvement in the U.S. "star wars" program was "on the point" of being ready.

Free Democrat Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher at once issued a statement: There will be no involvement in the "star wars" program without a general agreement on scientific and technical cooperation. But under pressure from F.-J. Strauss, leader of the extreme right-wing representing military concerns, Chancellor H. Kohl immediately disavowed his minister: "This is not the government's viewpoint."

Of course, it would be possible to depict the clash in the Bonn leadership merely as an argument over the question of what "dressing" to put on the plans to involve the country in the U.S. plans for the militarization of space when dishing them up to the FRG population, which has an antiwar disposition. Probably, for a certain section of the opposing groups, it really is a question of just choosing the best disguise. It is on these that the Pentagon counts.

A regrouping has occurred in FRG industry, and there has been a considerable increase in the size of military concerns and their influence in the country. Bonn is reacting more and more to pressure from the military-industrial complex. However, the lessons of the past, when some of the leaders of German firms had to sit in the dock as war criminals after 1945, have not been forgotten by everyone.

There are not that many concerns in the FRG that are entirely absorbed in the weapons trade. The majority have "grown two legs" -- one military and one civilian; for both eventualities of world development. At the same time, civilian production remains paramount for many. They know from their own experience that the escalation of the arms race and, even more, its transfer into space, will sharply exacerbate the situation in the world. Production cutbacks, rising unemployment posing a danger to stability, and the undermining of Western Europe's competitiveness will prove inevitable.

The recent Bonn conference of representatives of numerous West German peace champions' organizations confirmed that the struggle is continuing. "We demand," its participants declared, "that the FRG Government make a positive response to the new Soviet peace initiatives by taking specific steps in the disarmament sphere." "All those who believed or hoped that the antiwar movement had ceased to exist were mistaken," the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSHAU writes. "Its authority and influence in the country is growing."

Drugs Against Doubts

The bus which a few days previously had taken the astronauts to Challenger this time delivered a large wreath to a helicopter. The helicopter then flew over the ocean, and at precisely 1139, the exact minute that the spacecraft blew up, the wreath was dropped onto the water...

America is in mourning -- particularly those who know how difficult the path into space is. And, as always with hard losses, the thought -- "Were the sacrifices in vain?" -- nags at people's consciousness. While specialists are sorting through debris to find the possible technical causes of the disaster, many people in the United States -- and not only there -- are taking a critical second look at space concepts these days. The Challenger explosion has also shed light on the hidden, unpublicized side of the program to prepare for "star wars." "More and more specialists in various U.S. research establishments," THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported, "are expressing the opinion that the Challenger disaster has confirmed that the plans to deploy weapons systems in space are fraught with deadly danger for mankind. This tragedy has brought us back to the real world."

"Let us imagine that a spacecraft has blown up in orbit under conditions when arms systems have been deployed in space," R. Bowman, director of the Institute for the Study of Space Problems (United States), for example, argues. "The computers controlling the systems would react instantly to the explosion, and... Perhaps the Challenger disaster will make the initiators of the 'star wars' program realize the terrible danger to our planet's very existence and will push the administration into constructive talks with the Soviet Union on nuclear and space arms. There is no place for weapons in space."

Washington is still maintaining a stubborn silence. One month will soon have elapsed. At the same time, the American press is reporting that the White House is planning a special campaign aimed at "convincing the public of the need to further build up the country's military potential." The Pentagon has disseminated the draft of its U.S. military budget for fiscal 1987. A new record -- $311.6 billion. The arms that the military-industrial complex wants to impose on the United States in just 1 year would undoubtedly be more than enough for all the country's national defence needs. And yet this is just an "addition" to the already existing huge nuclear potential.

To justify the unchecked accumulation of weapons there is the same old speculation on people's ardent desire to put an end to confrontation and to conclude an agreement on disarmament with the USSR.

"To act from a position of strength," C. Weinberger says, "is the only way to hold talks effectively..." As though it were possible to prevent fuel tanks from exploding by hosing them with gasoline. Playing with fire ends in flames. An almost 40-percent increase in military spending is planned over the next 5 years.

However, this program of madness is not being pushed through smoothly. "Today we are coming up against the serious task of achieving national concord in support of our efforts to restore America's defenses," U.S. Vice President G. Bush complained recently. The country has been split as a result of the devilish persistence with which, contrary to reason and the national interest, mountains of weapons are being built up. A narcotic faith in "miracle weapons" is being injected in ever larger doses into a country where worship not of man but of technology is cultivated so strongly; as though these weapons, meaning SDI, could solve the problems of modern society.

The bulletin NATO REPORT records the exacerbation of disagreements among the NATO allies with regard to the response to Moscow. Western Europe fears Washington's adventurist course. Thus, the London conservative newspaper THE FINANCIAL TIMES believes that a decision by the U.S. President to "sacrifice an equitable arms agreement for the purpose of continuing the 'star wars' program" would be "a nightmare variant which would deprive Europeans of sleep."

These days Washington has sent its emissaries to Western Europe and Asia with instructions to allay anxieties.

Attempts are being stepped up to shift world public attention away from the chief issue -- disarmament -- to regional problems, and in a neocolonialist interpretation, moreover. The U.S. President's "State of the Union" message, which does not contain a single word about the Soviet disarmament proposals, maintains that for the United States "there is no other problem more important for peace in our hemisphere, for the security of our borders, or for the protection of our vital interests than the achievement and establishment of democracy in Nicaragua and the defense of Nicaragua's democratic neighbors." So, the "achievement and establishment" of a regime to Washingon's liking, of course, in an independent state hundreds of kilometers distant from the United States. The "great dream for the future" of the United States, as outlined in the President's message, must be crammed to overflowing with weapons, and they want to pave the way to it by means of violence over other peoples. THE NEW YORK TIMES reports the intention to strengthen arguments which would "work" in favor of building up military might and using it in world politics. It is planned to revive the old arguments used to justify the U.S. occupation of Grenada in October 1983. It is claimed that the might of the American machine "prevented something worse," namely the "spread of the conflict." "According to officials," the newspaper reports, "R. Reagan will go to Grenada on 20 February to specially emphasize that fact."

The "victory" over tiny Grenada served as grounds for a wild outburst of nationalism and chauvinism in the United States. Of course, it is possible to reinfect a certain section of the American population with chauvinism. But no eloquence is capable of making the world forget Washington's shameful invasion of Grenada. The old motto of conquerors -- "might before right" -- will not enhance U.S. prestige. Likewise, an attempt to ensure security, above all, by dint of military-technical means and new "superweapons" will not help to get us out ot the nuclear impasse. This concept has no future.

SHEVARDNADZE, UN DEPUTY MEET ON AFGHAN SETTLEMENT

LD111519 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has received here in Moscow the deputy United Nations secretary general, Diego Cordovez, who has been mediating Afghan-Pakistani talks. They discussed international guarantees of a possible political settlement which these talks are to produce. Eduard Shevardnadze said that, as Mikhail Gorbachev has noted, the Soviet Union was determined to make 1986 see notable progress in the work to bring about a political settlement around Afghanistan.

COMMENTARY SCORES U.S. SECURITY COUNCIL VETO

OW091159 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Ulyanov commentary from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The United States has vetoed a draft resolution submitted by a group of non-aligned countries in the UN Security Council that condemns the piratical act of the Israeli Air Force against Libyan civil aircraft. Here is our commentary:

[Ulyanov] As soon as the Security Council begins discussion on a routine Israeli aggressive action, its efforts become futile despite the fact that the majority of those taking part in the council's discussions resolutely condemn Tel Aviv's policy as the U.S. representative declares his veto every time. This has already happened three times this year.

The record of impudent piratical acts committed by Israeli militarists is extensive. Remember February of 1973 when an Israeli fighter shot down a Libyan civil Boeing aircraft without any warning. There were 106 persons on board. Remember the bloody Friday of 17 July 1978 when Israeli aircraft, warships, and artillery in Beirut and other Lebanese cities killed 300 and wounded 800 persons, mostly old men, women, and children. Remember the seizure of a Cypriot civilian ship in 1984. In a word, it is piracy in all the three spheres -- in the air, on land, and at sea.

The chain of these crimes includes Tel Aviv's latest piratical act against the Libyan civil aircraft which was intercepted by Israeli fighter aircraft and forced to land on Israeli territory. Would Israel have dared to commit one terrorist action after another if it was not sure in advance of U.S. support? And in the latest case with the Libyan aircraft, Tel Aviv had no doubt about the reliable helping hand of its American friend.

The economic sanctions against Libya announced by the United States became effective on 1 February. So Tel Aviv could expect praise and not blame and this is what happened. A TASS statement says that in accordance with its powers defined in the UN Charter, the time has come for the Security Council to take effective measures to stop Israeli crimes which pose a direct threat to peace and security in the Middle East and beyond its boundaries. These words are directed first of all at the United States.

NATO LEADERSHIP PRESSURES NORWAY, DENMARK

LD111526 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 11 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The NATO leadership is bringing obvious pressure to bear on Norway and Denmark. It demands that they should increase their military appropriations. U.S. General Rogers, NATO allied supreme commander -- Europe, asserted that those countries do not spend enough funds on military purposes and disapproved them because of that.

Meanwhile, statistics show that Norway, for instance, leads its NATO partners for per capita military spending. This year its military budget will amount to 15.9 billion krone, an increase of three billion krone on 1984.

As to Denmark, General Rogers' reproaches are obviously groundless, too. The military expenditures of Denmark remain this year at the level of approximately 11.5 billion kroner. It was reported in the press that 8.5 billion dollars worth of military equipment will be purchased for the Danish Armed Forces over the period from 1985 to 1989. Numerous consignments of military equipment will be bought from the USA. Moreover, Denmark's financial contribution to the program of the development of NATO's infrastructure for about the same period will make up nearly two billion kroner.

But General Rogers is unconcerned about statistics. He demands that the Norwegian and Danish taxpayers should contribute ever more hundreds of millions to the financing of the arms race. Otherwise, General Rogers threatens, Norway's and Denmark's allies in the North Atlantic bloc will not send their reinforcements if a "crisis situation" forms in the north of Europe.

Speaking in the headquarters of NATO's northern flank near Oslo on Monday, General Rogers resorted again to his favourite method, that of pressure and intimidation. He reproached Norway that it, allegedly, fulfils only about a third of the proposals that the NATO command deems necessary for maintaining" adequate defence capabilities". This statement by the American general cannot be described otherwise than as the striving to whip up NATO's military preparations on its northern flank.

Foreign observers noted that the statement by General Rogers was timed for major NATO winter exercises in northern Norway, to open shortly, the exercises in which U.S. and British units will take part, alongside Norwegian ones. The nature of these military games can be seen if only from the fact that the repulsion of a "Soviet menace" will be imitated during them.

They in NATO Headquarters apparently have no wish to take into consideration the realities and needs of the time and continue banking on stepping up military preparations which seriously undermines European security.

TASS REPORTS U.S. SEVERS AIR LINKS WITH LIBYA

LD112032 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 11 TASS -- The United States has taken another hostile move against Libya whose anti-imperialist policy goes against the grain of the White House.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole ordered a complete end to air communication with Libya. The order does not only cancel flights by U.S. airlines to Libya and Libyan airlines to the United States but also bans the sale by foreign airlines in U.S. territory of tickets for flights to Libya.

Dole's order is part of U.S. discriminatory "economic sanctions" against Libya, which were announced by President Reagan on January 7 and which are accompanied by a campaign of military pressure on the young republic.

Increases Military Pressure

LD111619 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The United States is increasing military pressure on Libya. The latest reports: An armada of American warships, including two aircraft carriers, has again been dispatched to Libya's shores, as Washington has announced a military exercise in the region, the second since the beginning of the year. But the situation now is even more explosive.

According to the NEWSWEEK magazine, during the latest exercise American planes may be ordered to intrude in the Libyan airspace. The United States Command has already warned, as it were, that the planes based on the two carriers will be flying missions in a zone serviced by the air traffic control system of the air force of the Libyan capital, Tripoli. In other words, a direct threat is being created for civilian air traffic. This is a real threat, if one recalls in particular the latest examples of interception by United States and Israeli Air Force planes of an Egyptian airliner and, later, of a Libyan one.

It is reported in Arab countries, according to our Middle East correspondent, Leonid Rassadin, that United States Air Force planes will be training in dropping bombs on installations in Libya by using the territory of Israel, the Negev Desert where the landscape is similar to that in Libya. An American law professor, (Eddie Brown Lester), has noted in an assessment of Washington's foreign policy that the United States Administration is bent on substituting international terrorism for international law.

WEINBERGER 'FORGERY' EXPOSED BY JAPANESE MILITARY

LD102148 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 10 Feb 86

[From the "International Diary, Events, Facts, Opinions" program, presented by Vladimir Pashko]

[Text] The Japanese military department has exposed a forgery by the Pentagon, or to be more precise, by its chief, Weinberger.

In his report which accompanied the budget request to Congress for fiscal 1987, the U.S. defense secretary stated that Tokyo and Washington had already created two joint commissions, with the participation of representatives of private business, with the aim of handing Japanese technology over to the United States for the development of the latest antimissile defense and missile communications systems.

However, a representative of the Japanese military department has denied this assertion, stating that such commissions not only do not exist, but also that Japan so far does not intend to create them. By all appearances, the calculation was being made across the ocean that Japan would swallow the falsification and would silently consent to the creation of the commissions, giving Washington access to the technological secrets of Japanese corporations. The Nakasone government would possibly have done so, but the country's private business so far does not intend to share its developments with its rivals.

COMMENTARY ON BUSH REMARKS ON 'MORAL STRENGTH'

LD112301 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Nikolay Borin Commentary]

[Text] Vice President George Bush declared at the International Conservative Conference that the present United States Administration had opened the eyes of both the Americans and their allies to their common moral strength. A short commentary on this by Nikolay Borin:

At the very time the American vice president made this statement the World Council of Churches released a report on what it called the shocking human rights violations in the Philippines, violations involving the United States. The 163-page document included detailed testimony on killings, disappearances, and torture -- 81 cases in just the past 2 years. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS a copy of the report was to be sent to all the members of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Not suprisingly, the report says that the torture techniques practiced in the Philippines were strikingly similar to those practiced and taught by the American forces during the Vietnam war and used by repressive regimes in Asia and Latin America. There are indications, according to the report, that the torture technology had been imported from the United States and channeled through personnel training at United States military schools.

A shocking picture does indeed emerge from the sworn affidavits and depositions of the victims and the report points out that many other cases of human rights violations have been documented and many others go unreported.

The United States' involvement in the elections in the Philippines caused widespread protest in the country. These were, in fact, protests against that very common moral strength to which Vice President Bush claims the administration has opened people's eyes.

INTERNAL SURVEILLANCE SEEN GROWING IN U.S.

PM051157 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No. 3, 17 Jan 86 p 9

[Yu. Gudkov article under the rubric "Panorama": "Shultz and the Others"]

[Text] His ability to keep his views to himself has earned the U.S. Secretary of State the nickname "Buddha" among his colleagues. Alas, this quality did not save him from clashing publicly with the President, thus possibly burying forever his generally recognized reputation as a "team player."

The reason for "Shultz' uncharacteristic difference of opinion" -- as one of the newspapers put it -- was Presidential directive 196, which proposes that all people who have access to classified government information should be subjected to a "lie detector" test. "Lie detectors" (nowadays referred to innocently as "polygraphs") have long been in use at U.S. government establishments but were only used on people suspected of divulging secrets. Directive 196 envisages the wholesale systematic screening of, believe it or not, more than 182,000 civil servants, including members of the cabinet. (A total of some 4 million people have access to classified information in the United States.)

G. Shultz resolutely dissociated himself from the directive. According to him, the "lie detector" "can hardly be regarded as a scientific instrument," and "a tendency to regard completely innocent people as guilty is characteristic of lie detector tests." In the event of such a test being introduced, the Secretary of State declared, he would undergo it "just once" and resign immediately. In order to hush up a scandal, the President had to assure Shultz that the new venture would not apply to him personally.

However, despite outward appearances, it is not for the Secretary of State to complain about the rampant persecution of dissidents which is beginning to resemble the "witch hunts" of the fifties. He, albeit not be alone, sowed the seeds which are producing the poisoned shoots.

Judging by available information, the decisive argument in favor of Directive 196 was a leak of information relating to a plan for a military operation against Libya. The plan was drawn up by the CIA last summer, proceeding from the premise that "no course of action, with the exception of stimulating Al-Qadhdhafi's overthrow, will produce substantial and lasting changes in Libyan politics." The plan met with opposition in the Senate and House committees on intelligence. George Shultz defended it on behalf of the administration, and it was he who said: "We must get Al-Qadhdhafi into a box and slam the lid."

Equally resolutely Shultz favors the use of military force in retaliation for "acts of international terrorism." And these are interpreted in such loose terms that they have simply become a cover for acts of subversion against governments which do not suit the United States. The most overt "secret operation" -- against Nicaragua -- is well known. There is more and more information about U.S. intervention by means of backing counterrevolutionary forces operating against Afghanistan, Angola, and Cambodia. I would like to emphasize one point: Under the Reagan administration approximately 50 major secret operations have been sanctioned. Shultz was no bystander.

At the same time, not all people, even people in the upper echelons of power, are prepared to embark on military adventures. The "success" in Grenada did not convince them that they can operate with impunity. "I hear that people are yearning for the good old days," Patrick Leahy, member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, has said. "But let us not forget that the good old days times were the days of the Bay of Pigs, Salvador Allende, Patrice Lumumba, and many other fiascoes." Their opposition frequently takes on active forms which are dictated by fear of expensive fiascoes. The same old "Vietnam syndrome" which appears on the pages of newspapers to have long been "overcome" makes itself felt in practice. It is known, for instance, that the White House had to give up a plan to topple the government of Suriname because of opposition in Congress and -- consequently -- a threat of exposure.

The so-called "leaking of information" is a widely used method in U.S. political practice. It is frequently used by the administration, primarily for political and propaganda purposes.

However, as the aggressiveness of administration policy intensifies, "leaks" of the opposite character are becoming more frequent. "The time has come to admit that all is not well as regards this process (keeping secret operations secret -- Yu.G.)," CIA Director William Casey warned recently. Hence the desire to stifle the crisis of confidence in administration policy, primarily by means of punitive measures. The FBI budget has trebled over the past 5 years. Electronic surveillance and phone tapping have taken on an unprecedented scale. As has police shadowing of political organizaions. At the same time, just as happened during the McCarthyism period, extremists of the Ku Klux Klan and "Minutemen" type and so forth are engaged in the service of the FBI. Under the guidance of Justice Secretary Edwin Meese more rigorous legislation is being introduced and judges are being replaced in favor of conservatives. The "lie detector" affair is only the tip of the iceberg, albeit a very illustrative one, as regards general surveillance. So Shultz need not pretend that everything hinges on the "lie detector" and that he is not aware of the connection between cause and effect.

Nonetheless, his demarche caught the administration unawares. It emerged that Directive 196 was adopted without consulting Shultz or Treasury Secretary J. Baker, despite the fact that they are part of the National Security Planning Group where the directive was drafted, and even without consulting F. Fielding, the White House legal expert (all are resolutely against it). Rumors began to spread that the President was unaware of the consequences of this step. The White House immediately denied the rumors. THE NEW YORK TIMES endorsed the denial in a rather peculiar manner: "President Reagan cannot be likened to wax in the hands of people rallied around the Casey-Weinberger-Meese axis."

The reference to an "axis" is not fortuitous. It is these three men, whom the right wing regards as its main representatives in the administration, who laid the foundations for this decision and are defending it with unshakable stubbornness. It is with them that Shultz has clashed above all, and this unquestionably testifies to an exacerbation of the struggle inside the administration. In this context a correspondent of the ABC TV network noted that "Shultz should not threaten to resign again, because next time the president will accept his resignation." Recalling the recent departure from the White House of R. McFarlane, the President's former national security adviser, you come to the conclusion that the right is hunting down those who still remember diplomacy as a foreign policy tool. "The conservatives," AP reports, "are particularly dissatisfied with Shultz' stance on arms control," and above all his intention to continue to abide by the SALT II treaty.

U.S. USES ARMS DELIVERIES TO 'PRESSURE' JORDAN

PM101147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Glukhov report: "Pressure Lever"]

[Text] Beirut, 9 Feb -- The U.S. President has notified Congress that he has postponed indefinitely the examination of the question of arms deliveries to Jordan. These deliveries, amounting to 1.9 billion dollars, were to include the sale of 40 aircraft and anitaircraft defense means.

In his highly promising declaration on arms sales to Amman last year, the President described this step as "an expression of U.S. political support for Jordan's efforts to attain a fair and lasting settlement between Israel and the Arab world." But the final decision on military deliveries was postponed until March 1 and made conditional on Jordan entering direct talks with Israel. Thus the "peace" which Washington pursues lies along the way of separate deals. As far as Amman is concerned, it advocates a comprehensive Middle East settlement within the framework of an international conference with PLO participation. This is why the United States now intends to use the arms deliveries issue as a lever to put pressure on it.

GORBACHEV PROPOSAL DRAWS POSITIVE RESPONSE

OW120434 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The proposal put forward by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his 15 January statement on destroying all nuclear and chemical weapons by the year 2000, has drawn positive responses from all over the world. Our reporter on international issues, Volskiy, comments in this connection as follows:

The great interest aroused by the Soviet peace-loving proposal is only natural, because, as far as mankind is concerned, there is no task more pressing than this one, aimed at preventing a nuclear war.

In an interview with L'HUMANITE, Comrade Gorbachev emphatically pointed out: The Soviet Union works hard to destroy all nuclear weapons on earth and promote socialism, concerns itself with the future of mankind, and believes in developing the potential of mankind in inspiring creation, promoting humanitarianism, and making progress.

The new Soviet proposal put forward in the 15 January statement by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has fully reflected this principled line of the CPSU and the Soviet Union.

It is known to all that it was the United States which used the mass-killing atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Asia. According to documents from the Pentagon and other U.S. military bases, the United States, in the postwar years, has more than once seriously discussed the issue of using atomic bombs in Asia in the Korean war, and during the 1958 Taiwan Strait crisis. Later, when the United States committed aggression against Vietnam, it also planned to use atomic bombs. China has always been included in the list of targets for U.S. nuclear attack, whenever the United States tries to work out this list. This is nothing accidental.

From the very beginning, U.S. imperialism has regarded the Chinese revolution as its enemy -- a ferocious and cruel enemy. The United States has practically regarded the Chinese territory of Taiwan, which it had illegally occupied, as its principal base to launch its crusade expedition against China. What merits attention is the fact that Washington is even more stubbornly hindering the return of Taiwan to the embrace of the motherland by continually supplying modern weapons to the pro-U.S. Taipei regime. It is obvious that this is a component part of its general line in strengthening and expanding its military bases, including nuclear bases, in Asia in the vicinity of China.

All these U.S. activites are of no use. The imperialist clique, aggressive by nature, is basically unwilling to coexist in peace with socialism. Under this situation, Comrade Gorbachev's proposal will help mankind eliminate all nuclear and chemical weapons by the year 2000. Willing to restrict or ban weapons of all types, the Soviet Union is concerned over the most pressing and fundamental need of the people of various countries and all mankind. The people of various countries can, and should, contribute to doing everything in accordance with the desire of mankind and the people of all countries on earth. Those people naturally include the Chinese, who would bear the brunt of the arms race initiated by the imperialists.

U.S.-ROK 'TEAM SPIRIT' MANEUVERS ASSAILED

LD111215 Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 11 TASS -- TASS corresponding Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

The joint American-South Korea military command announced in Seoul on Monday the beginning of joint "Team Spirit-86" large-scale exercises. These are the 11th "Team Spirit" exercises, involving almost 200,000 men. The "Team Spirit-86" exercises virtually do not differ from thos held in 1985 and will be held under a similar program. The "Team Spirit-86" exercises will be under way during ten weeks approximately till the end of April.

The first American units were transferred from the Fort Lewis base, the state of Washington, to South Korea yesterday and today. Along with specialists from the 40,000-strong U.S. corps, permanently stationed in the south of the Korean peninsula, they will prepare in a few days conditions for deployment of the main contingent of the U.S. troops. During a few weeks it will be transferred by sea and by air from bases of the American territory proper, in Japan and the Hawaii Islands according to the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, ships with weapons, ammunition and other equipment for exercises will start arriving in the port of Pusan on February 13.

The USSR, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China have protested against the Team Spirit exercises, and the Pentagon therefore intensively points to "a purely defensive" character of the exercises, asserting that these exercises have the only aim to get prepared for "repelling a possible attack from the north". But the press earlier carried reports, saying that the scenario of these exercises is now mainly based on testing the so-called "pre-emptive" strikes deep in the enemy's defences.

According to Japanese newspapers, in the Pentagon's view the significance of the Team Spirit exercises exceeds by far its Far Eastern and Asian strategy. These exercises make it possible to test in conditions of large-scale exercises the so-called Rapid Deployment Force, to test the tactics of transferring big military contingents to considerable distances. The Team Spirit are the biggest exercises of all that Washington holds with its allies. In the Pentagon they are fully aware that neither in Western Europe nor in Japan would it be allowed to conduct for ten weeks broad-scale operations involving masses of troops and weapons. So far this is possible only in South Korea with its authoritarian pro-American regime and the situation of military tension caused by the deliberate propaganda campaign around the so-called "threat from the north".

TASS Notes Protests

LD100646 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 10 TASS -- U.S.-South Korean joint military exercises "Team Spirit-86" begin in the south of the Korean Peninsula today in defiance of widespread protests of the world progressive public. More than 200,000 servicemen of all arms and services of the armed forces of Seoul and the United States will take part, and various types of the newest combat equipment will be used in the exercises. The opposition parties of Japan and mass anti-war organizations of the country have issued statements condemning the start of the provocative war games, which undermine the foundations of security in the Asian-Pacific region, and firmly demanding that the drumming up of militarist hysteria in Asia be discontinued.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES JAPANESE ENVOY, MESSAGE

LD161634 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 10 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs, received today the Ambassador of Japan to the USSR Yasue Katori at his request.

The ambassador handed over a message of the Prime Minister of Japan Yasuhiro Nakasone to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

Eduard Shevardnadze and Yasue Katori had a talk in the course of which they touched upon some questions connected with bilateral relations which are of mutual interest and analyzed a number of international problems in the light of the new Soviet peace initiatives put forward in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev of January 15, 1986.

Nakasone Reiterates Invitation

AU110901 Paris AFP in English 2308 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, Feb 10 (AFP) -- A message was transmitted to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Monday in which Premier Yasuhiro Nakasone reiterated his invitation to Mr. Gorbachev to visit Japan, a Japanese source disclosed.

The message also said Japan is willing to conclude a World War Two peace treaty that would settle "existing problems" between the two countries, the course said. That was an allusion to Japan's claim to the Kuril Islands occupied by the Soviet Union since the war.

The letter also commented on Mr. Gorbachev's recent call for total nuclear disarmament by the year 2000. Mr. Nakasone wrote that Soviet SS-20 missiles deployed in Asia should be withdrawn in case the Soviet Union and United States dismantled all their intermediate-range missiles deployed in Europe (which Mr. Gorbachev proposed as the first stage in his total nuclear disarmament plan).

Japanese Ambassador Yasue Katori handed the message to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. It answered a letter from Mr. Gorbachev that Mr. Shevardnadze delivered to Mr. Nakasone in Tokyo last January.

During that visit, the first by a Soviet foreign minister to Japan in 10 years, Mr. Nakasone and Gorbachev exchanged invitations for a Soviet-Japanese summit meeting.

Mr. Nakasone's answer stressed the importance he attaches to contacts between leaders of the two countries. He also outlined the main lines of Japanese policy toward Moscow, the sources said.

It was decided during Mr. Shevardnadze's stay in Tokyo to start peace negotiations. Moscow had refused to until then as long as Tokyo insisted on bringing up its claim to the Kuril Islands north of Japan.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR SPEAKS AT DPRK MASS RALLY

SK050526 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1230 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpts] A mass rally of Kangwon province supporting the new Soviet peace proposal for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons was held at the Wonsan youth hall theater this afternoon.

The flags of our country and the Soviet Union were hung at the front of the rally site. Also hung at the rally site were slogans reading "The Korean people actively support the peace-loving Soviet initiatives and efforts to defend the peace and security of the world" and "U.S. imperialists, withdraw at once from South Korea, along with your nuclear weapons."

Choe Pok-hyon, chiarman of the Kangwon Province Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee, and Kim Kyong-ho, chairman of the Kangwon Provincial committee of the Korea-Soviet Friendship Society and vice chairman of the Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee of Kangwon Province, and other functionaries concerned were present at the rally, along with the working people of Wonsan City.

Nikolay Mikhaylovich Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to our country, and staffers of the Soviet Embassy were invited to the rally. The Soviet ambassador to our country, Nikolay Mikhaylovich Shubnikov delivered a speech at the rally.

[Begin recording in Russian, fading into Korean translation]

Dear Korean comrades: I wish, above all, to extend my sincere thanks to the WPK Central Committee, the DPRK Government, party and state organizations, and the public organizations of Kangwon Province and Wonsan City for inviting me to attend this rally convened in support of the important Soviet peace proposal put forward in the statement by Comrade Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, published on 15 January.

Dear comrades: Taking this opportunity, I convey the warm greetings and best wishes from the Soviet people to the entire fraternal Korean people, and through you, to the workers of Wonsan City and Kangwon Province.

We regard the peace and security of mankind as the (?supreme goals) to attain in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. Soviet foreign policy reflects our people's ardent wish to peacefully live with all the people throughout all stages that the Soviet state (?develops.)

The CPSU always treasures the dying wish of Lenin: "We promise the workers and the peasants to do our best for peace, and we will fulfill this promise." The CPSU is following his wish.

Today complicated and difficult tasks of a pan-national, pan-regional and pan-world scale lay before mankind. However, no task is more urgent than the task of preserving our civilization by eliminating the danger of nuclear war, by ending the arms race on earth and by preventing the arms race from expanding into space. The general line pursued by the Soviet state on international questions is aimed at resolving such a basic task. Our party is (?coping) with the imperialists' reckless policy for aggression and the "star wars" plan with its ideas for developments in the world to bring about a world free from war and weapons.

Proceeding from a desire to contribute to the maximum degree to basically improving the international situation and toward totally freeing mankind from a nuclear holocaust, the Soviet Union some time ago put forward new, comprehensive large-scale programs of historic significance, manifest to the government and people of each nation. These programs put forth by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his 15 January statement comprise concrete proposals for totally eliminating nuclear weapons from the entire world.

Our country proposed that for the next 15 years -- to the end of the 20th century -- measures to totally free the earth from nuclear weapons be consistently implemented step by step and be achieved. Adopting another important decision as part of its program for the abolition of nuclear arms, the Soviet Union extended for 3 months the measures for unilaterally ending nuclear testing and appealed to foreign nations and the other countries possessing nuclear weapons to join this measures. We also proposed that bestial weapons of mass destruction, such as chemical weapons, be totally abolished. We think that it is necessary to destroy even the industrial bases for producing such weapons. Our peace programs include the prohibition of production of non-nuclear weapons that have similar destructive power to that of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons.

The comprehensive Soviet proposals consider the interests of all countries, including nations in the Asia and Pacific area. The Asian area has become a target of the more persistent hegemonist ambitions of the imperialists. The number of U.S. military bases in this area is increasing, and an attempt to fabricate new militarist blocs, including the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul alliance, is being made. Thus tensions have been aggravated in every way. The U.S. imperialists are scheming to organize a second front line in this area to struggle against the socialist countries.

The new Soviet proposals were to be sent to all nations of the world, all political parties and public organizations, and each individual. [end recording]

The speaker said: The new Soviet peace proposal also corresponds to the aspirations of the Asian peoples as well as those of the European peoples. Thus, this proposal has evoked great sympathy on the part of the peace-loving people of the world. He pointed out that the Soviet party and people are effecting great successes in socialist economic construction with the approach of the 27th CPSU Congress by vigorously carrying out the struggle to consolidate peace.

Noting that the traditional USSR-Korea friendship is being strengthened and developed with each passing day, he continued:

[Begin recording in Russian, fading into Korean translation] The visit to the Soviet Union by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK, in May 1984 served as a milestone in our relations and as one of the remarkable [sangdanghan] events that have further accelerated the strengthening of our relations as allies and of (?fraternal) cooperation .

Although it has only been 2 years since the meetings and talks between the leaders of our two parties and two states were held, what we have accomplished is not small. We rejoice over the active development of political (?ties) between the CPSU and the WPK and the governments of our two countries.

Last year we splendidly marked the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation amid an atmosphere of (?fraternity). It was a great festiveal of USSR-Korea friendship.

At the end of last year Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the State Administration Council, visited our country. As the result of the talks held during his visit, the plan on reciprocal cooperation in trade, economy, science and technology by 1990 was prepared [chaksong]

From any sector in (?bilateral) relations, we can notice progress in cooperation between the parties, cultural ties, and trade relations and contacts between various public organizations. In a word, the important characteristic of our relations today is the active development and aspirations of both sides to seek a new type of cooperation.

This year we mark the 25th anniversary of the conclusion of the treaty between our two countries on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance. At present, when the most bellicose elements among the imperialists, headed by the United States, are maneuvering to drive the world into nuclear holocaust, the significance of the relations between the Soviet Union and socialist Korea has increased.

Our country highly appraises the class solidarity with the peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state expressed by the fraternal Korean people.

We express our sincere thanks to the WPK Central Committee and the DPRK Government for actively supporting the foreign policies put forward by the CPSU and the Soviet state, including the new Soviet proposal made in the 15 January statement by Comrade Gorbachev.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to emphasize that the joint acts between our two parties and two countries in the international arena correspond to the aspirations of the Soviet people and the people of socialist Korea.

On the basis of a position of fraternal solidarity, the Soviet Union is closely watching with great interest the courageous struggle of the workers of the DPRK for the peaceful and democratic reunification of the fatherland.

The presence of U.S. troops equipped with nuclear weapons in South Korea, the constant military provocation maneuvers of the United States and the Seoul regime against the DPRK, and the recently announced plan for the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise between the United States and South Korea are creating grave consequences for the situation on the Korean peninsula and in Asia.

Our people firmly believe that the proposals put forth by the DPRK serve as a good foundation for creating conditions favorable to the peaceful resolution of the Korean issue and the democratic reunification of Korea.

We express solidarity with the decision of the DPRK to suspend large-scale military exercises from 1 February 1986 and all military exercises while the North-South dialogue is ongoing. We appeal to the United States and the South Korean regime to follow this righteous model.

The Soviet people invariably support the peace-loving line of the DPRK, which stipulates forcing the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, and conclusion of a nonaggression declaration between the North and South.

We also support Comrade Kim Il-song's proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and for broadly developing the dialogue for peace between the DPRK and South Korea.

If the Korean peninsula is turned into nuclear-free zone and peace zone, this will be the concrete implementation of the peace proposals put forth by Comrade Gorbachev in his statement. This will also correspond to the spirit of agreement reached on during the talks between the USSR and the United States in Geneva and will greatly contribute to improving the situation in Korea and consolidating stability [anjong] in the Asia Pacific region.

Dear Korean comrades: We assure you that our party and the Soviet people will always stand on the side of your struggle for national reunification. We believe that Korea will become a unified state and that all the Korean people will live as a harmonious family. [end recording]

IRAN CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

Menteshashvili at Reception

LD111517 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 11 TASS - Kia-Tabataba'i, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Soviet Union, held a reception today on the occasion of Iran's national holiday, Revolution Day.

Among those present at the reception were Tengiz Menteshashvili, secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Foreign Relations Committee, and other officials.

TV Carries Envoy's Address

LD111902 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Address by Kia-Tabataba'i, Iranian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union on the anniversary of the Iranian revolution; date not given; from the "Vremya" newscast -- recorded in Persian with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] Our people are marking the 7th anniversary of the victory of the revolution with feelings of happiness and pride, and I want to tell Soviet television viewers of the revolution's aims and tasks. Today the hearts of the Muslim people of Iran and supporters of the Islamic Revolution in all parts of the world are beating in unison. The experience of our revolution has demonstrated that it is necessary and possible to stand up against the forces of oppression and aggression. We are proud of the fact that in our struggle we have been supported by our own outlook and ideology. We were victorious because our revolution was based on three facts: First, profound faith in conjunction with practical actions; second, the decisive and uncompromising leadership of the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni; third, the wide participation by the people in the revolutionary movement, its loyalty to Islam and observance of its laws.

Today is the national holiday of our people, who emphatically support and defend the gains of the revolution. It is the holiday of a people that have overthrown a regime and won a victory over imperialism in the propaganda, military, political and economic spheres of life. Our faith is incompatible with despotism and personal gain. We rightly assert that at this moment our country os the only Third World state which is not under the influence of dominant forces. Our people defend their homeland and their wealth with weapons in their hands, and also assist peoples combatting imperialism. Our country has broken off relations with the aggressive regimes of world imperialism, with the occupationist regime of Israel and the racist regime of the RSA, and openly proclaimed its struggle against them. World imperialism has always tried to stifle the voice of our revolution and to do everything possible so that the peoples of the world do not hear it, particularly those peoples who are under the yoke of imperialism.

In the 7 years since the revolution our country has achieved impressive successes. Today the revolution attracts the attention of the whole world; it will remain forever in history.

Our foreign policy is based on friendly relations with neighboring states, including the Soviet Union. Its principles are expansion of cooperation, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, genuine equal rights, and fulfillment and observance of international regulations and obligations. The common nature of interests between our countries presupposes the establishment of the kind of mutual relations which will be useful for the further development and strengthening of friendship between the Iranian and Soviet peoples.

Thank you.

NEW TIMES ON IRANIAN POLICIES, RELATIONS

PM050959 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 3, 27 Jan 86 pp 29-30

[V. Komarov article: "The Iranian Scene"]

[Text] The amount of news coming out of Iran today is meagre. This makes all information about developments in that country the more interesting.

Political observers stress that importance of the fact that Ayatollah Khomeyni has named his future successor to the post of Faqih, supreme spiritual and political leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He is Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri recently semi-official deputy of Khomeyni. True, as THE NEW YORK TIMES observed, there is no sign that Ayatollah Khomeyni, who is said to be 85, is about to leave the political scene.

The Iranian information agency IRNA has announced that Montazeri's candidature was officially approved by the Council of Experts, an elected constitutional body nominating the supreme leader of the state. The decision was publicly confirmed by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Majlis (parliament).

Meanwhile the office of Ayatollah Khomeyni has issued denials of rumours about a serious deterioration of his health. As proof of the falsity of the rumours, he was shown on television meeting a group of religious and political leaders. Late last year Khomeyni also met army commanders.

In a letter to the Council of Experts Ayatollah Montazeri said he "wished the Imam a long life" and preferred not to occupy his place. He called on his followers to refrain from demonstrations in support of his election. The Council's decision is challenged by some prominent Shi'ite authorities, who say that they do not see Montazeri as possessing the virtues necessary for the supreme leader of the nation.

In the opinion of the Paris LE MONDE, "backstage rivalry for the succession" reflects the struggle between various groups within the ruling Shi'ite clergy. "The official appointment of Ayatollah Montazeri as future successor of Khomeyni," writes the paper, "would strengthen the camp of the so-called radical reformists who also have the backing of Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the majority of the leaders of the "guardians of the Islamic Revolution." Many of these "guardians," along with the regular army, are fighting in the Iran-Iraq war now in its sixth year. The front line runs mainly along the state border and partly inside Iraqi territory in the "east of the Tigris." A virtual stalemate has developed. Iran has abandoned its tactics of "human waves" offensives in favour of limited operations, which has substantially reduced its losses. But, as the American CBS TV network reported in late December, Iran is again concentrating troops probably for another massive offensive.

The British OBSERVER writes that there is no agreement among the different political and military factions in Iran's leadership on strategy in the war with Iraq. The question is not whether to continue the Iran-Iraq war or not, but when to launch an offensive -- now or in spring. Colonel Shirazi, commander of the ground forces, said in an interview to the Tehran paper KAYHAN that limited operations "were not enough" and declared that "the only way to achieve victory is by a broad offensive." Several high-ranking officials of the regime have recently declared their adherence to the Khomeyni line of "war to victory." The press reports that new units of so-called "volunteers" are being recruited and sent to the front.

According to official figures, Iran is spending one third of its state budget on the war with Iraq. The hostilities cost the country about $250 million a month in foreign currency alone, says the French LE FIGARO. But how does one measure the losses in terms of human lives? There was recently an outcry in the Majlis when parliamentary deputy Sayyed al-Hoseyni said that 300,000 people had been killed, maimed, or recorded missing in the war. Among them were boys sent to the front straight from school. Some 40,000 were taken prisoner. About three million people have become refugees forced by the war to flee from their native parts.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly made known its position on the Iran-Iraq war. Now, as in the past, it calls for an early end to the war, for a political settlement of the conflict on a mutually acceptable and just basis, at the negotiating table. Andrey Gromyko said in December 1985: "In our view, people who, contrary to all logic, call for pursuing the war to a victorious finish are not acting sensibly." The USSR proceeds from the assumption that continuation of the war not only weakens the belligerents -- Iran and Iraq -- and their anti-imperialist potential, but seriously aggravates the situation in the Persian Gulf area and heightens the danger of direct imperialist intervention in the affairs of the sovereign states in the region.

The war is a heavy drain on the Iranian economy. Because of hostilities, devastation in the oil fields and ports, oil exports fell to 1.5 million barrels a day, compared to 2.7 million barrels in 1979. The drop in currency earnings leaves less to subsidize imports of prime necessities. "Iranians face a further decline of their living standards and further growth of inflation which topped 50 percent in 1985," wrote the FRG magazine DER SPIEGEL last autumn.

In general, little has changed in the country's social and economic life in the years since the anti-shah revolution. There have been no reforms to benefit working people. Moreover, lands that had been given to landless peasants in the early post-revolutionary period have been returned to the big landowners. Many factories that were initially nationalized are now run by their former owners or other private entrepreneurs.

All this was virtually admitted recently by Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Corps. Speaking in Tehran University, he said: "The work we have done amounts to having destroyed only the top of the old, pro-American system in Iran, i.e., we have expelled the members of the shah regime and its main accomplices from the country." But where are the broader social, democratic goals of the revolution which the Shi'ite clergy that headed it propounded with such zeal?

Living standards are falling. According to a Chamber of Commerce and Industry bulletin, the average real incomes of urban families in 1984 were 45,000 rials below the subsistence minimum (in 1980 they were 5,000 rials above this minimum.) There are three million unemployed in the country.

More and more Iranians are openly expressing discontent with their worsening position. According to the French magazine VIE OUVRIERE, about a hundred strikes were registered in Iran in the first half of 1985. The biggest of them was at the Esfahan steel complex, which has a workforce of 25,000. All the strikes were put down.

In its foreign policy the Iranian leadership is stepping up efforts to export the "Islamic revolution." Propaganda is not the only means used to that end. Some time ago, according to the world press, a 3,000-strong unit of the Islamic Revolution Corps was sent to Lebanon. A spokesman for the Iranian Embassy in Beirut announced that Tehran had donated $15 million "for the development of Islamic culture in Lebanon."

Iran is giving massive support to anti-Afghan counterrevolutionary groups and still refuses to take part even in indirect talks with the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Last year Afghan border posts were shelled several times from Iranian territory. Iranian propaganda has launched particularly fierce attacks on the internationalist assistance the Soviet Union is rendering the DRA in defending the gains of its April revolution against encroachments from internal and external reactionaries.

Recurrent anti-Soviet attacks in the Iranian press and by high-ranking Iranian officials do not accord with the interests of our two countries. The Soviet Union would like to see its relations with Iran based on the principles of genuine good-neighbourship, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

KARMAL SPEAKS TO PRAVDA, TASS CORRESPONDENTS

LD101928 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent German Baykov reports:

The answers of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the questions of the newspaper L'HUMANITE most clearly and explicitly set forth the CPSU's policy at the present stage of the country's development on the threshold of the most important event in the life of the Soviet people -- the 27th congress of the CPSU, PRAVDA and TASS correspondents were told by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council. The statements by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev on problems of present-day international developments, in common with his preceding statements on that subject are permeated with concern for peace. Characteristic of them is a deep-going political analysis, constructive approach and historical realism.

It is with special attention and interest that we have received the evaluation given by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee of the situation in Afghanistan and around it. It gives an accurate analysis of the causes of outbreak of the conflict and ways for its settlement. Mikhail Gorbachev's pronouncements are consonant with the strivings and wishes of our people.

Now we in the DRA are successfully advancing on the road of resolving the long-ripe problems of the country's internal development.

Broad sections of the people, including representatives of tribes, the clergy, intellgentsia and business circles are ever more actively drawing into that process. Under way is a consolidation of the national patriotic forces, which can make a contribution to starting peaceful life.

Special attention is devoted to the development of the countryside, since the rural dwellers make an overwhelming majority of the country's population, the Afghan leader continued. The other day a meeting was held in Kabul of party and government executives on questions of the party's policy in the field of agriculture. The meeting outlined a while package of measures directed at improving the situation in that, actually the main branch of Afghanistan's economy.

I would wish to note specially that the course of the land and water reform convincingly shows that the agrarian issue is being resolved in Afghanistan in the interests of the working peasantry.

Former farmhands get their own land plots, cooperatives are established, but the interest of individuals and organizations in developing agriculture is not limited. The people's Democratic Party of Afghanistan enjoys growing trust between the working people and true patriots of the homeland with every passing day.

It is understandable, however, and this was particularly explicitly emphasized by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev that not everything in that field depends on us. The main cause of the remaining tensions has been and is interference of outside forces, which have a stake in its continuing and broadening, above all Pakistan and the USA. As far as the DRA is concerned, we are ready for a constructive political dialogue, including the final coordination of all documents making political settlement. This has been convincingly shown by the last round of the Geneva talks.

Yet a decision on these issues, Babrak Karmal said, should be drawn up in the course of direct talks with the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, as it is the sole and plenipotentiary representative of the Afghan people.

PRAVDA CITES SOVIET-AFGHAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION

PM071207 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Second Edition p 4

[N. Yakubov article: "Afghanistan Struggling and Building"]

[Excerpts] To carry out antifeudal national democratic transformations and turn Afghanistan into a developed state is one of the urgent tasks for the country's development. This was stated in particular in the program document "The National Democratic Nature of the April Revolution and Its Urgent Tasks Under Present-Day Conditions" recently published in Kabul.

Before the revolution, which took place in April 1978, Afghanistan was one of the world's poorest states. Agriculture -- the main sphere of material production -- was characterized by extreme backwardness and the predominance of feudal and even prefeudal attitudes. Industry was very poorly developed. More than 90 percent of the population could neither read nor write. One-third of all children died before the age of 5. Average life expectancy was less than 45 years. There was just 1 doctor for every 12,000 inhabitants.

The tasks of boosting the Republic's economy must be carried out under exceptionally complex conditions. The heavy burden of the numerous problems inherited from previous regimes and the mistakes permitted in the first few years of the revolution are taking their toll. But the main cause of the difficulties is the undeclared war against the new power unleashed by imperialist circles with the help of foreign and domestic reaction.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries provide substantial development aid to Afghanistan. Soviet-Afghan political and economic ties, initiated by V.I. Lenin, have a long history and serve as a vivid example of good-neighborly relations.

With Soviet help, gas and chemical industries have been created in Afghanistan, the country's energy base has been established, machine-building and motor vehicle repair enterprises have been commissioned, more than 1,500 km of hard-surface roads and major irrigation complexes have been built, and higher and secondary educational establishments have opened their doors. Tens of thousands of Afghan specialists and skilled workers have been trained.

Soviet-Afghan relations received a new boost after the April Revolution. Over 50 projects of vital importance to the country have been built with Soviet aid in this relatively short period of time. They produce around 75 percent of state sector industrial output.

In the last few years trade turnover between our countries has risen considerably. In exchange for Soviet machines, equipment, petroleum products, and consumer goods, the DRA supplies cotton, wool, hides, gas, dried fruit, citrus fruit, oilseeds, and other goods to the Soviet Union.

While the USSR and the other socialist countries are supporting Afghanistan in solving its difficult economic problems, the United States and its allies started soon after the April Revolution to cut back and, subsequently, entirely end economic aid to the young republic. The Western countries are essentially subjecting it to an economic blockade.

Contrary to the UN Charter and principles, the United States is exerting unprecedented pressure on specialized international organizations in order to prevent economic collaboration with Afghanistan -- one of the world's poorest countries -- simply because it does not want to toe the imperialist line.

Furthermore, the U.S. special services are particularly orienting the dushmans to destroy economic targets. And this is all being done under the slogan "defense of democracy" and "concern for the Afghan people's interests."

This support is being given on a grand scale. Some $1.5 billion has already been allocated overseas for arming, training, and maintaining the numerous gangs committing crimes on Afghan soil.

However, despite the schemes of foreign and domestic reaction, the process of revolutionary transformations in Afghanistan is gaining pace. Life confirms that the DRA, relying on the support of the Soviet Union, the other socialist community countries, and progressive states, is not only successfully defending itself in the struggle against the counterrevolution but consistently carrying out the socioeconomic tasks posed by the national democratic antifeudal revolution.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES NEPALESE ENVOY

PM071139 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Reception of Ambassador"]

[Text] On 5 February V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, received (Bishveshvar Prasad Rimal), ambassador for the Kingdom of Nepal, in connection with the forthcoming presentation of his credentials.

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON PHILIPPINE ELECTIONS

U.S. Election Role Protested

LD112058 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 11 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] As the paper THE WASHINGTON POST reports, Reagan gave advice in the presence of journalists today about which type of government is most preferable for the Filipinos to elect. This stance of mentor taken up by Washington has aroused the anger of millions of Filipinos. A mass demonstration took place in Manila, where the participants demanded that all U.S. representatives go home as soon as possible.

Situation Updated

LD112205 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1714 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Manila, 11 Feb (TASS) -- In the capital of the Philippines and other towns of the country large demonstrations continued in support of both President F. Marcos and the opposition leader C. Aquino. The final decision about who won the election on 7 February will be made by the National Assembly (parliament). At the National Assembly building there were also demonstrations by the rival sides. Today the MP's formed an 11-member commission headed by N. Yniguez, speaker of the National Assembly, and which also contains members of the opposition parties.

In the complex situation F. Marcos in his address to the nation appealed for people not to give in to provocations and to avoid violence. F. Ver, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with the aim of relieving tension and setting an example for the opposition, stated that the decree issued for the period of the presidential elections on putting the troops on alert had been lifted.

At the same time, according to press reports, the opposition bloc candidate issued a warning on the intention to continue demonstrations, "if she is not declared the winner."

According to unofficial data published here by the National Commission of the Philippines on the elections, based on a count of votes in 42 electoral districts, F. Marcos is in the lead by over 400,000 votes. The organization called the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections which, as the local press affirms, openly sympathizes with the opposition, gives a different picture.

Both Candidates Claim Victory

LD102237 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1948 GMT 10 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] As is known, some of the largest U.S. military bases are situated in the Philippines. It is precisely this, as U.S. observers themselves admit, which explains Washington's great interest in the presidential elections in the Philippines, where a special group of observers from the U.S. Congress was sent.

The final results of the elections are not yet known, but although information on the results of the voting has as yet only come in from less than half the polling stations, both candidates -- the current head of state President Marcos and the leader of the bourgeois opposition Aquino -- have already spoken of their victory. Moreover, the opposition candidate has reported that if a victory for Marcos is announced, her supporters are ready to go to the streets. In an address to the nation, President Marcos called for calm, stressing that the opposition is exacerbating tension in order to provoke disorder. Meanwhile, the U.S. has sent an extra detachment of vessels, headed by the attack carrier Midway, to its naval base in the Philippines.

U.S. Exerts Pressure

LD101728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Aleksandr Fedonin commentary]

[Text] The counting of votes continues in the presidential elections which took place in the Philippines on 7 February. Every day, even every hour, the papers, radio, and television are giving preliminary results of the vote-counting from various parts of the country. However, the official results have not yet been announced. This is the prerogative of the country's parliament. Our correspondent Aleksandr Fedonin reports from Jakarta.

Although the press and television are full of discussions about the preliminary results of the vote-counting, no less attention is being paid to the problem of U.S.-Filipino relations. In Washington, they are worried by the growth of anti-U.S. feeling in the Philippines and the desire of the present government to display more independence in its actions. In certain circles of the U.S. Administration, they are staking on the bourgeois opposition, reckoning that its leaders will be more amenable to Washington's recommendations. In reports in the U.S. press, and statements by officials, which abound with accusations against the government of breaches in the vote-counting procedure, it is quite plain where their sympathies lie. One of the leaders of the U.S. delegation to observe the elections, Senator Richard Lugar, in an interview for U.S. television on election day, declared that President Marcos risks a further worsening of relations with the United States if manipulation of the voting results occurs. Commenting on the White House's position, the U.S. observer Richard Kessler writes that if Marcos tries to hold on to power, the United States will take a hard line, including cutting U.S. aid. The pressure being exerted by the United States, in the opinion of the Filipino press, borders on interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

SHEVARDNADZE MEETS WITH PRK AMBASSADOR

LD312123 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 31 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze received Hor Nam Hong, ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, [PRK], today. During the conversation, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, an exchange of opinions took place on topical issues of the present international situation and on bilateral relations.

The ambassador declared that the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the government of the Republic support the new large-scale initiatives of the USSR put forward in the statement by Comrade Gorbachev.

Comrade Shevardnadze emphasized the unchanging nature of the Soviet Union's policy of principle, directed at political settlement of the problems of Southeast Asia and at supporting the constructive proposals of the Indochinese states, which were recently reaffirmed at the 12th conference of the foreign ministers of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia and which work to that end.

PRK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING SUMS UP PROGRESS

BK100402 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Concerning the proceedings of the PRK National Assembly session, our correspondent in Phnom Penh wrote that the PRK National Assembly members summed up the outcome of socioeconomic development during the past year and set targets for the coming years.

According to reports by various speakers at the National Assembly, Cambodia is now advancing firmly on the road of national rebirth. The people's material and cultural levels have increased gradually. In fact, the problem of food has been resolved. This problem was left behind by the Pol Pot regime -- a regime which had pushed the country into the deep abyss or disaster. Despite last year's unfavorable weather, the Cambodian peasants reaped a better rice yield than in the previous years. Compared with 1980, industrial production has increased three-fold.

In this historic period, more than 800,000 adults in Cambodia can now read and write. A country which was turned into a vast prison and where almost all teachers were killed by Pol Pot and his henchmen is now changing into a country in which every citizen will know how to read and write. Under the Pol Pot regime, the total of 2,300 professors was reduced to only 209. In sum, the Pol Pot regime killed and tortured to death 3 million Cambodians.

At present, the Cambodian people are confident in their better future. It is true that not all problems have been resolved. There are still some other problems, such as a shortage of electricity. In addition, there are incessant aggressive acts from outside. The enemies of the PRK want to revive the old regime. They keep fostering and assisting the criminals who were toppled, were driven out of the country, and who have been called freedom fighters by Washington. The international reactionaries have provided military aid to the Pol Pot bandits living in Thai territory who have often caused disturbances along the Cambodian border.

With foreign assistance, the so-called CGDK [Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea] was suddenly illegally formed outside the country. This government serves as a smokescreen for the Pol Pot murderers who play the major role of military and political forces in this coalition government. However, the Cambodian people have resolutely countered all maneuvers of the enemies. Speakers at the National Assembly meeting in Phnom Penh noted that all serious defeats suffered by the counterrevolutionary bandits last year are significant to strengthening stability inside the country. At the same time, Phnom Penh has taken the lead in proposing a dialogue to bring about peaceful solutions to all problems created around Cambodia.

In an interview, Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly, said: The PRK will continue to strengthen the bond of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation with the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and Laos, and will strive to make any contribution to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. This is the fundamental foundation of the PRK's foreign policy.

'POLPOTIST' LETTER TO SOVIET PEOPLE ASSAILED

LD290942 Moscow TASS in English 0821 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 29 TASS -- Two stories transmitted by the Chinese XINHUA news agency first from Beijing and then from the United Nations summarise a document called "an open letter from the Kampuchean people to the Soviet people", LITERATURNAYA GAZETA writes in today's issue.

Kampuchea or the Kampuchean people have nothing to do with this, the paper notes. The "letter" was read over the "radio of Democratic Kampuchea" (these Polpotist transmitters are in southern China), while in the United Nations it was circulated by representatives of the "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea", that is by the very same Polpotists who are only slightly disguised by Sihanouk and Son Sann - politicians of the pre-Pol Pot period. These two are not stained by genocide against their own people. But now they have become a convenient screen for the Pol Pot sadists who are guilty of the death of three million Kampucheans.

The "coalition's" "letter" that has been circulated at the United Nations is intended for people who know nothing about the situation in People's Kampuchea and the subersive activities of its enemies, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA writes. The authors of the letter demand an end to the internationalist assistance given to People's Kampuchea by its friends and promise in return "friendly relations with Democratic Kampuchea". The grouping that has been thrown out of the country by its people, that lives on the money of others, that does not have even a patch of its own territory claims the right to speak on behalf of the people and the state...a really sorry and ludicrous sight.

This "letter" is a sign of weakness, of confusion among the anti-Kampuchean "coalition" and its masters as a result of the successes of People's Kampuchea, infighting within the camp of Khmer reactionaries and their increasing isolation in the international arena, the paper stresses. The whole idea about this "letter" looks pitiful against the background of the People's Republic of Kampuchea's undeniable successes in strengthening its internal and international positions, against the background of the clearcut and realistic stand taken by Kampuchea's real government which really speaks on behalf of the Kampuchean people. The essence of this position is that talks with external Khmer groupings on national reconciliation are possible only if the Pol Pot clique is removed from the military and political scene. This criminal clique has been outlawed now and forever. Such is the sentence meted out to it by the Kampuchean people.

SOUTH PACIFIC GROUP IN MOSCOW FOR CONSULTATIONS

LD041638 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 4 TASS -- Consultations with a delegation of the South Pacific Forum [SPF] on questions of a treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific and protocols to it were held in the USSR Foreign Ministry on February 3-4.

The Soviet side has explained the concept of a nuclear-free world advanced in the statement of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev of January 15. It has been stressed that the implementation of the program of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere with the prevention of the emergence of space strike arms would lead to a radical improvement of the international situation on a long-term and stable basis. The attention has also been called to the Soviet Union's decision to extend till March 31 its earlier-announced unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions.

Thus, a favorable opportunity has been created to stop nuclear tests and to advance without delay to the conclusion of an international treaty on a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon tests.

The delegation of the South Pacific Forum highly assessed a complex of important initiatives set out in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement that evoked much interest of countries of the South Pacific region. The delegation of the South Pacific Forum welcomed the extension of the Soviet unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions and noted that the countries of the South Pacific Forum firmly declare for a complete cessation of nuclear tests by all nuclear states.

The Soviet side noted that the USSR views the creation of nuclear-free zones in various areas of the world as an important measure in the struggle to narrow the sphere of nuclear preparations. In its attitude to nuclear-free zones the Soviet Union does not make exception for any states, be it participants or non-participants in military alliances: If some or other country renounces the acquisition of nuclear weapons and does not have them on its territory, it gets firm and effective guarantees from the USSR. Proceeding from this principled stand, the Soviet Union has expressed from the outset its positive attitude to the efforts of the states of the South Pacific to create a nuclear-free zone.

During the consultations the Soviet side said that the establishment of a zone free from nuclear weapons in the South Pacific is an important contribution to fashioning a reliable security system in Asia and the Pacific, narrows the geographical bounds of the spread of nuclear weapons and facilitates the fulfilment of the task of doing away with nuclear weapons on earth once and for all and preventing an arms race in outer space. The treaty on the nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific together with the protocols to it in their present form basically correspond to the criteria suggested by the Soviet Union for nuclear-free zones.

It was noted with satisfaction that the treaty provides for a commitment to support efforts to preserve the effectiveness of the international regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, based on the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency. At the same time the Soviet side pointed out the importance of making certain that the agreement creating the nuclear-free zone really ensures the making of the territories of the signatory states into a zone completely free from nuclear weapons. This presupposes, in particular, a ban on the transit through the nuclear-free zone's territory of nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices, including visits at ports and air fields there by foreign warships and aircraft with nuclear weapons aboard. The delegation from the South Pacific Forum was also told of a number of other considerations and asked questions concerning individual provisions of the treaty and the accompanying protocols.

The delegation from the South Pacific Forum expressed gratitude for the Soviet Union's support for the decisions taken by the SPF countries to declare the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone, took note of the considerations voiced by the Soviet side and gave corresponding explanations.

The consultations involved V.F. Petrovskiy, a member of the Collegium of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR, other senior officials from the Foreign Ministry of the USSR and a representative of the Defense Ministry of the USSR on the Soviet side and SPF delegation leader David Saldier of Australia, Christopher Beeby of New Zealand, Gracie Fond of Fiji, Joseph Gabut of Papua New Guinea, Levi Laka of the Solomon Islands and Anthony Manaranji of the Cook Islands as well as Allison Stokes, ambassador of New Zealand to the USSR, and Robert Tyson, charge d'affaires and interim of Australia to the USSR, on the side of the South Pacific Forum.

The members of the SPF delegation were received by M.S. Kapitsa, a deputy foreign minister of the USSR who had a conversation with them on issues of mutual interest.

IDEOLOGIST CITED ON TIES WITH WESTERN PARTIES

LD101832 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1644 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 10 (TANJUG) - Representatives of some 150 parties from various countries will attend the 27th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party opening on February 25 in Moscow. Besides representatives of a large number of Communist and worker parties and national liberation movements, delegates of several Western socialist and social democratic parties will also attend the congress. Invitations have been sent to over 20 of these parties.

A change of the Soviet stand in relation to these parties has been announced in the draft programme of the Soviet Communist Party. The draft this time did not include the earlier sharp criticism of social democracy.

The Soviet Party Programme specifies that the party will invest efforts on developing ties with socialist, social democratic and labour parties, regardless of considerable differences concerning majority of questions.

In relation to the above change Professor Yuriy Krasin, prorector of the Academy of Social Sciences within the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, stresses that independence and autonomy of Marxist-Leninist parties precludes also their responsibility for a common cause of the international communist movement.

In his article "Internatioal and National in the World Revolutionary Process" Krasin stresses that owning to the existing differences in views and positions on actual questions "it is incorrect to present a demand for total ideological unity as a precondition to unity of action. This would result in dogmatic-sectarian positions which would make cooperation of communist parties impossible."

Krasin simultaneously criticizes as incorrect the limiting of the unity of the communist movement by unity of action. He considers this "pragmatism" which would lead to suppressing ideological foundations of the communist movement.

Speaking on protection of ideological principles in the communist movement Krasin considers that the overcoming of differences within the communist movement is linked with the struggle on two fronts: Against the rightist and leftist revisionism. Not specifying what these terms exactly relate to, Krasin concludes that it is possible to overcome differences but not through ideological compromise in questions of principle.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS KARPATI'S DEPARTURE

PM1111129 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Colonel General F. Karpati, Hungarian defense minister, lift Minsk for Budapest 8 February. He had been on an official friendly visit to our country at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense.

Before his departure the guest visited a Red Banner Belorussian Military District unit where he familiarized himself with the lives, leisure, and combat training of the servicemen.

The minister also visited the Hill of Eternal Glory and laid a wreath.

F. Karpati was accompanied on his trip aroung the country by Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH HUNGARY 4 FEB

PM111009 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 7, Feb 86 (Signed to Press 6 Feb 86) p 23

[Dispatch "from TASS reports" under the rubric "Foreign Economic Chronicle": "Expansion of Cooperation"]

[Text] An agreement was signed in Moscow on 4 February between the USSR and Hungarian Governments on equipment deliveries and on economic and technical cooperation in the construction of industrual enterprises and other projects in Hungary in 1986-1990.

In the process of drafting the agreement, the sides were guided by the decisions of the CEMA countries economic summit conference and the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic in the Period Through the Year 2000.

The bulk of the Soviet Union's technical assistance to Hungary in 1986-1990 will be channeled into the development of nuclear power engineering. Cooperation will continue in the building of power units currently under construction at the Paks nuclear power station, and also of new power units there. There will be further development of production sharing in the sphere of nuclear power machine building and reciprocal deliveries of equipment for nuclear power stations.

The agreement provides for the reconstruction and modernization of projects in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, chemical industry, petroleum refining, and other sectors of industry, constructed previously with USSR's technical assistance, for the prupose of expanding their production capacities and enhancing technical standards and output quality on the basis of the introduction of modern technology.

The agreement was signed by F.K. Karushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, for the Soviet side, and by P. Veress, Hungarian minister of foreign trade, for the Hungarian side. S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, was present at the signing.

ROMANIAN ENVOY, LEADERS MARK TREATY ANNIVERSARY

PM111007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 86 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "To Mark the Anniversary"]

[Text] On 4 February T. Dudas, Romanian Ambassador to the USSR, held a friendly meeting to mark the 38th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the USSR.

The meeting was attended by leaders of a number of ministries and departments and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

GDR'S HONECKER VIEWS GORBACHEV ARMS PROPOSALS

LD092258 Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Berlin, February 9 TASS -- The proposal put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that all nuclear weapons be eliminated by the year of 2000 has met with broal approval of international public. This is the only programme of its kind for mankind's rescue from a nuclear catastrophe, the programme which opens up a truly history-making possibility of the world's peaceful future. It is the dictates of common sense to use this opportunity, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee, chairman of the GDR Council of State, told a conference of the Berlin party district organization held here.

There are, certainly, people, he continued, including in the FRG, who dislike such a trend. Certain "apostles of freedom" talking about peace are expressing objections against such developments, which bring peoples closer rather than disunite them. The decisive thing for these people is not the elimination of nuclear threat, not putting an end to the arms race on earth and its not-spreading into outer spece, but fear that their inventions about a "threat from the East" will become less effective as a result of active peaceful cooperation between states with different social systems.

Erich Honecker stressed responsibility for ensuring peace, which rests on both German states and declared that not only the GDR, but also the FRG should under no pretext participate in a militarisation of outer space, so that during the period of talks between the USSR and the USA both German states should take no steps that can complicate these talks. By resolutely dissociating itself from the SDI programme, he stressed, the FRG could make its contribution to the success of the Soviet-American talks.

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GDR

LD052303 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] In conclusion, telegrams from Berlin and Warsaw: A plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and the GDR for the coming 5 years was signed today. The development of contacts in the field of cinematography betweeen the USSR and Poland this year is provided for in a protocol, also signed today, in the Polish capital.

FRG'S 'EVASIVE' WORDS FAIL TO CONCEAL SDI APPROVAL

LD112044 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 11 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Alexey Grigoryev writes:

There is a tricky word in German, "jein", formed of "ja" and "nein", "yes" and "no". This word is used much by Bonn politicians, especially in cases when most burning problems of the present are the point of the matter.

The question of ending nuclear explosions is a patent example. Speaking at a press conference in Bonn on January 9, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl said this: "Both the Federal Government and the U.S. Administration have long since proclaimed their fundamental interest in large-scale cessation of testing. To my mind, there is a chance now for promising talks on the limitation and subsequent ending of nuclear testing and verification of this".

Less than a week has passed, and the Soviet Union submitted for the consideration of peoples and governments the programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000 and extended its unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions for three months.

What was Bonn's reaction to this complex of large-scale Soviet initiatives aimed at ridding humanity of nuclear threat? On behalf of the FRG Government Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said that the government "welcomes the stand" of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee set out in his statement and intends, jointly with the FRG's allies, to study the Soviet proposals thoroughly. It would seem that "no" to nuclear testing and nuclear arms has been said officially on the banks of the Rhine. Not so. Resort has at once been made to "jein".

Following the Washington administration which, through President Reagan, proclaims its "dream of ridding the world of nuclear arms" but refuses stubbornly to join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions the Bonn Cabinet talks ever more openly about the "need" to continue dangerous tests. On the demand of the parliamentary group of Social Democrats, the question of the FRG's attitude to the ending of nuclear tests was discussed in the West German Bundestage late in January. The question was topical indeed, since prior to the debate, at a meeting of the Bundestag's commission on defence, State Secretary of the Bonn Military Department Lothar Ruel said that a certain number of nuclear tests will be necessary as long as NATO strategy envisages the use of these weapons of mass destruction.

The selfsame Ruehl later said that practice firing with the use of U.S. "Pershing-2" nuclear missiles, disrupted by last year's accident involving such a missile near Heilbronn will possibly be resumed in the FRG next spring.

It gets worse and worse as it goes on. In an interview to the Austrian newspaper NEUE KRONEN-ZEITUNG the other day, FRG Defence Minister Manfred Woerner asserted that it is hard for him to believe the seriousness of the Soviet Union's proposals in the sphere of the elimination of nuclear arms and that the Soviet Union, allegedly, has not even stopped anything in the sphere so far. The logic of the West German war minister was simple and blunt as the Bundeswehr's song: The Soviet nuclear moratorium, according to it, does not exist, and so there should be no American moratorium...

This stand by Bonn is explained not only by its notorious "Atlantic", that is NATO, solidarity, but first of all by the decision of the FRG ruling circles to join in the preparation of the U.S. "star wars".

Manfred Woerner made no secret of this, either. He declared again for the implementation of the sinister SDI, which according to him "opens the possibility of achieving a new form of strategic stability". And answering the question if SDI will open an opportunity to live in peace without the threat of nuclear arms, the minister said, without mincing matters: "I think this an illusion". And he added: "I believe that the complete elimination of nuclear arms as a result of SDI cannot be achieved, at least in foreseeable future".

Just so, Mr Minister. There is no need to beat about the bush. Having forgotten the bitter lessons of history, West German war industry concerns, including the aerospace giant "MBB" are eager to participate in the implementation of the "star wars" programme. Militaristic and revanchist circles of the FRG dream of getting hold of space weapons. Chancellor Helmut Kohl, leader of the Bavarian ultras Franz-Jozef Strauss and other influential politicians on the Rhine say that the FRG's involvement in the implementation of SDI is "morally justified and necessary". And "star wars" cannot be prepared without the continuing of nuclear weapons tests, without upgrading nuclear weapons. Such is the truth and it cannot be concealed either by peaceable statements or by evasive words such as "jein".

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON FRG 'RELUCTANCE' TO DISARM

PM061013 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[APN correspondent V. Markov article for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA under the rubric "Into the 21st Century Without Nuclear Weapons!": "Contradictions on the Rhine"]

[Excerpt] The "Presse Haus" is in the government district of the capital on the Rhine. The press centers of the German and foreign mass media are housed in that six-storied building here. Bonn Cabinet spokesmen hold press conferences in the expansive hall. This time there were more correspondents than usual.

"The Federal Government believes that the Soviet proposals contain constructive new elements on the problem of verification [kontrol] in various spheres of disarmament and of regulation and estimation regarding medium-range systems," F. Ost, leader of the press department, said, reading from a prepared text.

He listed not only those provisions of the Soviet initiative which Bonn considers positive but also a "number of items which it cannot approve." The official government spokesman did not say a word about the USSR's decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions by 3 months. Whereas before the Federal Government cited the "problem of the verification" [kontrol] of the observance of the moratorium, now, as F. Ost himself has just admitted, such a "justification" is completely inappropriate.

"What is the Federal Republic's position on the nuclear test moratorium?"

F. Ost said that he did not want to repeat what had been said recently on that question. This was a clear reference to Chancellor H. Kohl's statement but surely, there too, the stress was on verification [kontrol]... For all intents and purposes there has been no positive reaction from Bonn to the unilateral Soviet moratorium. Furthermore, L. Ruehl, secretary of state at the FRG Defense Ministry, stated outright the other day that a "limited number of nuclear weapons tests remain necessary."

Is Bonn prepared for nuclear disarmament and the world's complete liberation from the burden of nuclear arsenals? It would not be out of place to put this fundamental question to the Government of the FRG, the only country where Pershing-2's, the U.S. first strike nuclear missiles, are being deployed. Furthermore, the FRG now has on its soil what is already seen to be the highest concentration of armaments -- both nuclear and conventional -- in the world.

"We must not put ourselves in the position of people who refuse to abandon nuclear weapons at a time when Moscow is proposing nuclear disarmament," V. Ruehe, deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union's Bundestag faction, warns.

This is perfectly justified alarm which, by the way, sheds light on why official Bonn was not pleased that the Soviet proposals have been made known to the international public at large. Its reluctance to engage immediately in real disarmament is only too obvious.

PRAVDA REVIEWS BOOK CRITICIZING FRG 'REVANCHISM'

PM051527 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[I. Melnikov review under the rubric "Among Books": "Revanchism the Way It Is"]

[Text] This recent published book ("Revanchism: Ideology, Practice" ["Revanshizm: Ideologiya, Praktika"], "Znaniye" Publishing House, Moscow, 1985, 221 pages) was written by a collective of eminent publicists, scientists, and journalists specializing in international affairs from the GDR, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Czechosloavkia. Synthesizing two qualities -- passion and conclusiveness -- the book familiarizes the reader in depth with the ideology and practice of West German revanchism.

Revanchism has a bloody and dismal history. It resulted in millions of victims and incalculable suffering for the peoples of Europe during World Wars I and II, which started on German soil. The lessons of the past are memorable. It is no coincidence that the current chief component of European security is the inviolability of the borders on the continent in the form in which they were defined at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences. Those forums passed on the baton to the treaties which the socialist countries signed with the FRG in the seventies.

Nonetheless, revanchism exists in the FRG. It has its own ideology, which many pens bought by the ober-revanchists are working to "improve." It has specific champions of this ideology in the daily and hourly practice of the Rhine state. Finally, it has loyal patrons, who occupy high rungs in the government hierarchy.

The book illumines all three with the bright light of exposure. The authors of the anthology rely on facts to competently analyze the multifaceted problem. They expose the revanchists' link with FRG monopoly capital and their fraternization with the Bundeswehr leadership. The book shows the dangerous role which the notorious landsmannschaften -- the vanguard of revanchism -- play as the detonator of new conflicts and provocations.

Having learned nothing from history, the latter-day revanchists are carrying out their sinister intrigues against peace and security in Europe, against detente and the people's cooperation. The scale of this subversive work must not be underestimated, just as we must not close our eyes to the forces which support West German revanchism -- above all, U.S. imperialism.

The peoples are realizing increasingly clearly that where there is revanchism there are military adventures and a thirst for weapons, including nuclear and space weapons. In the end, the forces of progress will inevitably tear up the thistle of revanchism together with the roots which feed that thistle. The book under review exudes confidence in the success of this "weeding."

PRAVDA ON CONCLUSION OF UK-USSR COOPERATION TALKS

PM091923 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Through Joint Efforts"]

[Text] London, 8 Feb -- The 13th session of the Soviet-British Intergovernmental Standing Commission on Scientific, Technical, Trade, and Economic Cooperation has concluded its work here.

Both sides expressed their intention to continue their joint efforts to seek an expansion of long-term and large-scale trade, economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation, which is regarded as a stabilizing factor in Soviet-British relations, helping to increase mutual trust and to strengthen peace and security in Europe. In this connection the importance of the official visit of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by M.S. Gorbachev to Britain in December 1984 was emphasized.

Confidence was expressed that the commission's 13th session and the program for the development of economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Britain for the period 1986-1990, initialed during the session, will help to strengthen relations in these spheres and to raise them to a higher level.

A.N. Manzhulo, head of the Soviet delegation, had talks with British Trade and Industry Secretary P. Channon, Energy Secretary P. Walker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office T. Renton, and other officials.

SHEPETIS, DELEGATION RETURN FROM IRELAND 5 FEB

PM071329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Delegation Returns"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by L.K. Shepetis, secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, which has been taking part in the work of the 19th Communist Party of Ireland Congress, returned from Belfast to Moscow on 5 February.

CYPRIOT, GREEK LEADERS MEET; LAUD SOVIET PROPOSALS

LD102104 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Athens, February 10 TASS -- President of the Republic of Cyprus Spiros Kiprianou had a meeting here today with President of the Hellenic Republic Khristos Sartzetakis and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, questions connected with the solution of the Cyprus problem were discussed.

Andreas Papandreou welcomed the Soviet Union's proposals "On the principles of the Cyprus settlement and ways to achieve it." Addressing journalists, he emphasized particularly the Soviet proposal on the need to convene a representative international conference on Cyprus in the United Nations framework.

Both sides also declared in support of the initiative of United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar envisaging a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem.

On his part, Spiros Kiprianou described Soviet proposals on Cyprus as "constructive and positive," as proposals that may lead to positive developments in Cyprus.

NETHERLANDS-USSR MINISTRIES DISCUSS DISARMAMENT

LD080556 Moscow TASS in English 0038 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] The Hague, February 7 TASS -- Consultations on questions of disarmament, that have recently been raised by the Soviet Union, have been held at the Foreign Ministry of the Netherlands. The parties to the consultations were the Foreign Ministry's General Director for Political Matters A. Jacobovich de Seged, the USSR's Ambassador in the Netherlands A.I. Blatov and special representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry S.B. Chetverikov.

Meetings were also held at the foreign affairs commission of the second chamber of Netherlands' Parliament, the board of the Ruling Christian Democratic Appeal Party and The Hague International Relations Institute. Elucidated in detail in the course of the meeting was the content of the initiatives, put forward in the statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev on January 15, 1986.

GORBACHEV REPLIES TO LETTER FROM FINNISH CHILDREN

PM101549 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 7 Feb 86 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Gorbachev Reply to Schoolchildren"]

[Text] CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev has replied to a letter from the 8th class at the Finnish high school in Kvisbacka, Espoo. Gorbachev's reply was given to the schoolchildren yesterday.

In his reply, Gorbachev assured the schoolchildren that the Soviet people are striving for a lasting global peace. He also answered the children's questions on environmental protection. According to Gorbachev the Soviet Union will continue to follow its active course of environmental protection. Gorbachev encouraged young Finns to continue their work for peace. He also expressed the hope that cooperation between young people in Finland and the Soviet Union will be strengthened.

BRIEFS

ACCORD WITH FINNISH YOUTH -- Moscow, 4 Feb (TASS) -- An agreement signed between the Committee of Youth Organizations (CYO) of the USSR and the State Committee for Youth Affairs of Finland for 1986-1990 provides for a considerable expansion of links between Soviet and Finnish youth. This was reported today by USSR CYO Chairman Vladimir Aksenov. He was speaking here at a new conference upon the return of a Soviet delegation from Helsinki. Vladimir Aksenov noted that this is the second agreement between the two countries' youth organizations. The first document was signed 5 years ago on the Finnish side by 38 youth organizations, and this year 46 signed. The present agreement envisages, specifically, an expansion of tourist exchanges. While 25,000 young Finns went to the USSR last year, the Bureau for International Youth Tourism of the USSR, "Sputnik," plans to receive 30,000 guests from Finland this year. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 4 Feb 86 LD]

ISRAEL COMMITS 'PIRATIC ACTION' IN SEIZING SHIP

LD121121 Moscow TASS in English 1108 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, February 12 TASS -- The Israeli military has committed another piratic action. According to reports reaching here, an Israeli warship fired at, and intercepted in international waters close to the Gaza Strip a Turkish merchant vessel. The vessel was subjected to an unlawful search. Its captain was killed.

An Israeli military spokesman cynically announced that actions by the Turkish sailors seemed suspicious to the Israelis.

FURTHER ON TALKS WITH KUWAITI OIL MINISTER

Aristov Comments on Talks

LD111450 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 11 TASS -- The trade agreement which was concluded between the Soviet Union and Kuwait in November 1985, provides a favourable legal foundation for all-round development of Soviet-Kuwaiti mutually advantageous trade. This was noted in the course of the negotiations between the foreign trade minister of the USSR Boris Aristov and Minister of Oil and Industry of Kuwait Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah. Ratification of the agreement by Kuwait would help boost bilateral trade turnover which is so far not up to possibilities of both countries.

The business circles of Kuwait have lately been displaying interest in establishment of contacts and development of links with Soviet foreign trade associations, said Boris Aristov. New perspective areas of development of business relations between firms and organisations of the two countries were outlined in the course of the negotiations.

Ryzhkov Receives Minister

LD111817 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The Soviet-Kuwaiti economic talks have ended in Moscow. The two countries signed a protocol expressing a wish to promote trade and economic relations. Prospecting, mining and purchasing of oil was called one of the most promising fields of cooperation. The Kuwaiti minister of oil and industry, 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah, who took part in the talks, has been received by the Soviet head of government, Nikolay Ryzhkov.

PRAVDA REPORTS CASTRO SPEECH AT PCC CONGRESS

PM101130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition pp 4, 5

[TASS report: "Third Communist Party of Cuba Congress. Reports by Comrade Fidel Castro"]

[Text] Havana, 6 Feb — Delivering the report to the Third Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers, said:

Every congress must become a platform from which to sum up the inspiring results of past deeds, to energetically criticize shortcomings, and to set optimistic and bold plans for the future with faith in the strength of our revolution, in our militant spirit, and in the boundless potential of socialism. We are not afraid to admit our shortcomings, just as we are not afraid to proclaim the great successes of our revolution and our profound and firm faith in the future.

The 5 years since the second party congress were, without any doubt, a period of fruitful creative labor by our people and of successes for the revolution. It probably was one of the most successful and most fruitful 5-year periods.

Average growth rates were 7.3 percent for gross social product, which was considerably in excess of the planned 5 percent, and 8.8 percent for industrial output. During the 5-year period, labor productivity rose at an annual rate of 5.2 percent. This accounted for 74 percent of the output volume growth. Personal consumption rose by 2.8 percent a year and consumption funded by social funds -- by 7.1 percent. Average monthly wages increased 26.4 percent during the 5-year period.

The speaker went on to dwell in detail on the development of various sectors of the national economy. Sugar production, he said, increased by 12.2 percent during the 5-year period in comparison with the preceding period. The annual output of this product was successfully stabilized at the level of some 8 million metric tons. Unfortunately, this figure will be significantly lower in 1986 as a result of last year's prolonged drought and the serious losses caused by Hurricane Kate.

The industry producing equipment for sugar production doubled its product output during the 5-year period. In addition to the construction of new sugar refineries built according to Cuban designs and fitted to a considerable extent with equipment made in Cuba, 38 existing sugar refineries were expanded and modernized. As a result of this, and also thanks to the mechanization of sugar cane harvesting, which has reached 62 percent, the number of cane cutters fell from 350,000 just 16 years ago to 72,000 in 1985. That which seemed to be an unattainable dream in the first years following the victory of the revolution has already become actual reality in our country.

All sugar refineries have been transformed into agro-industrial complexes and a large army of engineers and other specialists with higher and secondary education has been posted to work there.

The average annual growth rate of agricultural output excluding sugar cane was 3.8 percent. Tractor pool power increased by 42 percent and the area under irrigation increased by 100,000 hectares to reach 500,000 hectares. The output of milk increased by 21 percent, that of eggs by 23 percent, of domestic poultry meat by 30 percent, and of pork by 33 percent. The constantly growing production of citrus fruit doubled in comparison with the preceding 5-year period. Despite the reduction of the area sown to rice, its output increased by 14 percent.

The average annual increase in total electricity generation was 4.3 percent. About 360,000 more homes were linked to the national power grid and thus, 85 percent of the country's housing is now electrified.

The volume of foreign trade increased by 65 percent during the past 5-year period. Exports to socialist countries reached 85.4 percent of the total volume of export deliveries. Imports from these countries accounted for 84 percent of all imports. The share of imports from capitalist countries in the total volume of imports, which stood at 26 percent in 1976-1980, fell to 16 percent in 1981-1985.

Foreign tourism income increased from $39.6 million in 1980 to $87.3 million in 1985, excluding indirect income from air transportation and other services.

F. Castro pointed out that the first labor code in Cuba's history was adopted during the past 5-year period. New forms of labor organization were introduced through the creation of permanent integrated teams. The practice of doing more than one job is also being introduced, basically among workers employed in production and employees in the services sphere and the administrative apparatus. Measures have been taken helping to retain personnel in priority regions and types of activity. The proportion of women in the country's working population rose from 32 to 37 percent.

Social security appropriations rose to 1,015 trillion pesos in 1985, exceeding by 260 million pesos the funds allocated for these purposes in 1980.

The Cuban leader dwelled in detail on the efforts being made by the revolution in the health care services sphere. As you recall, he said, at the start of the past 5-year period our country fell victim to a severe epidemic of dengue fever which, by all indications, was deliberately spread to our country by the U.S. imperialists. The epidemic, during which the number of people taken ill was at times in excess of 11,000 a a day, was totally eradicated in a matter of a few months.

Some 31 pediatric units were built in the country. The medical assistance available to Cuban children today is in no way inferior to that available to the children of millionaires in the most developed industrial capitalist countries. Infant mortality fell in 1984 to 15 per 1,000 newborn babies. Average life expectancy is in excess of 74 years. Medical services in the countryside have improved.

It is well known, the speaker went on, that from the very first years of its existence the revolution has also given enormous attention to education. Fruitful work was carried out also in this sphere during the past 5-year period. He noted Cuba's great achievements in the spheres of science, culture, literature, and sports, and emphasized the importance of the scientific research being done in the country.

Mass participation in sports events and physical culture pursuits increased by 43 percent during the 5-year period. More than 2,000 sports facilities, basically in the countryside, were constructed.

Our efforts, F. Castro said, must not depend on whether we take part in international competitions. Circumstances may arise in which our principles of international solidarity would demand our team's absences from some important sports meeting, as happened at the last Olympic games. Cuba -- the country which has done more than all the rest for the development of sports in this hemisphere -- has been robbed of the right to stage the next Pan-American Games on its territory and they have been transferred to the city of Indianapolis. This question was decided by a multimillionaire who deals with the Pan-American Sports Organization as if it were his personal property.

Comrade delegates, F. Castro said, I have listed our basic achievements, of which there are quite a few. But we could have made better use of our resources and funds. Our work was far from optimal. Shortcomings and blunders exist as before; they must be specifically pointed out and we must resolutely combat them. Only then will we be worthy of the title of communists! Only thus will we be able to advance increasingly faster and more confidently!

F. Castro noted the difficulties in exporting traditional commodities to capitalist countries, emphasizing that even though there has been growth in exports of new commodities, this has proved insufficient to reduce the deficit in the balance of payments in freely convertible currency.

Contractual obligations for the delivery of some commodities to socialist countries were not fulfilled. During the past 5 years exports to socialist countries were supplemented by a highly insignificant number of new articles. It is necessary to advance in this sphere much more decisively, on the basis of the existence of a wide market and of the favorable conditions granted to us by CEMA countries with a view to accelerating economic integration.

Despite the successes that have been scored, the development of the sugar industry -- our national economy's most sacred, important sector -- was below the actual potential, if the funds invested in it are taken into acount.

There were shortcomings in the application of fertilizers in the cultivation of most agricultural crops. Difficulties developed with their transportation and large losses occurred due to poor quality packaging and careless storage of fertilizers.

Lagging in the construction, reconstruction, and reequipment of irrigation systems and the absence of drainage and soil management, coupled with the inefficient utilization of already existing systems, prevented the achievement of higher yields of sugar cane, citrus fruit, tobacco, feed, and other crops. Losses were incurred, like before, in the procurement, processing, and transportation of agricultural produce. Much less attention than necessary is given to this question.

Incorrect care of cattle, low reproduction indicators, and insufficient feed stocks have had a ruinous effect on stockraising. If we add to this the drought of the last 2 years, it can be said that all this has led to a reduction of the growth achieved at the start of the 5-year period and an end to the growth of animal headcount.

The assimilation of new capacities was slowed down by inadequate skills and by labor force turnover. Organizational-technical problems still remain in production, insufficient use is made of foreign technical assistance, and technological discipline is not observed. The level of industrial capacity utilization was low in the production of sugar, of pressed bagasse slabs in the textile industry, and the dry-method production of cement. The exploitation and utilization of construction and agricultural machines and of transportation facilities remained at a low level.

Incomplete utilization of installed capacities is still to be observed in the machine-building industry. Spare parts production has increased, but plans were not always fulfilled in regard to the range and the assimilation of new product types as substitutes for imports that are paid for in convertible currency; this, coupled with the high consumption level, led to a considerable overexpenditure of currency.

The Cuban leader noted the inadequate efficiency of railroad utilization and pointed out low standards of passenger services.

Planned indicators for freight shipments by motor transport were not reached either.

One of the serious difficulties we encountered, the speaker went on, was the lack of a comprehensive approach in planning our economic development and particularly in substantiating and implementing the investments process.

Scientific research work lacked the necessary ties with production and because of this, its results were not specifically applied when solving the economy's problems. Due attention is still not given to work on the introduction of scientific and technical achievements.

F. Castro pointed out the lag in the development of the electronics industry, stressing that the first steps toward the application of computers in the spheres of education, health care services, scientific research, and transport and in production processes were taken only quite recently.

Instances of an inattentive attitude toward the population's needs can be observed in the services sphere.

The procedure for solving straightforward legal questions encountered by the population often appears bureaucratic and cumbersome. There are still shortcomings in the quality of the study and education process.

It is well known that the right to work is one of our people's fundamental rights. As regards employment, while many of the country's regions are experiencing a shortage of manpower, others have an excess of it. Particular attention must be given to such regions in the programs for our country's development.

The Cuban leader noted negative aspects in the implementation of cadres policy, pointing out that monitoring the administrative personnel establishment and the work on its reduction constituted a weak spot in the activity of the entire state apparatus.

Since the vigorously launched introduction of the system of economic management and planning, no consistent work has been done to improve it. The initiative was allowed to slip and there was no manifestation of the creative approach necessary to adapt to our specific conditions a system that was largely borrowed from the experience of other countries.

As regard enterprise efficiency, the system of economic management and planning could turn into absolute fiction if we were to attempt to ensure enterprise profitability by raising the prices of commodities and of construction and other work.

F. Castro recalled his speeches at the national power industry forum, at the closing of the congress of the Federation of Intermediate-Level Students, and at the December 1984 session of the National Assembly of People's Government, in which he particularly emphasized the exceptionally great significance for Cuba of relations with the socialist community countries and primarily, with the Soviet Union, the good terms of trade with it, and Cuba's lofty moral responsibility for the unconditional fulfillment of obligations regarding deliveries of sugar, nickel, citrus fruit, and other commodities to these countries.

There can be no doubt, the Cuban leader said, that 1985 was the year of the greatest savings and efficiency and of the best economic results in all the years since the revolution, but this is only a beginning.

He will not tolerate indifference, negligence, or irresponsibility. The time has come to apply the experience of knowledge accumulated during the years since the revolution.

A considerable part of the report was devoted to the next 5-year plan period. F. Castro pointed out that annual economic growth rates for the 1986-1990 period have been planned at approximately 5 percent. Regardless of the unfavorable international situation, we are able to set ourselves such a task bearing in mind the nature of our economic relations with the socialist community countries, he stressed. Average annual growth rates will be 5 percent for exports and only 1.5 percent for imports.

It is planned to achieve greater efficiency in the national economy basically through higher labor productivity, whose average annual growth rate will be approximately 3.5 percent. Labor organization will be improved through the spreading practice of creating permanent, integrated teams and through the development of financial autonomy at their level.

The new 5-year plan period will see the start of the implementation of scientific and technical programs elaborated for the guidance of scientific forces and for concentrating them on the solution of the national economy's most important strategic tasks.

The Cuban leader drew attention to the importance of the country's participation in the implementation of the Comprhensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress of CEMA Countries Through the Year 2000, recently adopted by CEMA for the purpose of pooling efforts to accomplish the common task which consists of sharply intensifying production, which, as he emphasized, has not only economic, but also great political significance.

Sugar production must increase by 15 percent overall. The potential daily sugar cane processing capacity will increase to 66,980 metric tons, basically through the expansion of existing sugar refineries and the building of three new ones.

Citrus fruit production will double during the 5-year period. Electricity generation will increase by 4.3 percent a year on average. Petroleum extraction will reach 2 million metric tons, while crude oil refining will increase by 30 percent. When the new Punta Gorda plant is commissioned, nickel and cobalt output will increase by 14 percent a year. In 1990 steel production will increase by 57 percent in comparison with 1985.

F. Castro dwelled in detail on plans for the development of the machine-building, the metal-working industry, and spare parts production. The output of medical equipment, furniture, communications apparatus, and color television sets will increase during the next 5-year plan period. The average annual growth of construction materials output will be 4 percent. The implementation of the capital investment program for the central railroad will continue. The merchant marine will acquire new vessels. The increase of social consumption funds will proceed at steady pace. Textile consumption per capita in 1990 will increase by 6.5 square meters in comparison with 1985.

The state will build 185,000 new homes, in other words, 65 percent more than during the last 5-year plan period. The construction of 27 hospitals, 45 polyclinics, 12 dental clinics, 87 homes for the elderly, and 26 homes for invalids will be completed. Output of medicines will increase by 65 percent in comparison with the past 5-year plan period. In 1990 the export of medicines will double in comparison with 1985.

F. Castro pointed out that, with a view to stepping up the work to improve the system of economic management, it was decided to set up a national commission under the Council of Ministers Executive Committee, which would monitor the correct application of the system and its improvement.

The plan which we have outlined in general terms for the next 5-year period, 1986-1990, F. Castro said, was elaborated in line with the strategy for the country's development through the year 2000. The broadest possible coordination of long-term plans with the socialist countries will occur simultaneously. The main objective of this strategy in the economic sphere is to accelerate the process of the country's industrialization.

Socialist integration within the CEMA framework will deepen, with emphasis being placed on the development of machine building of the electronic, light, and pharmaceutical industries, and of biotechnology and the production of sugar cane processing by-products. Attention will also be given to the development of international tourism. Agriculture will start developing more intensively with a view to expanding the traditional exports of agricultural produce and more fully satisfying the population's demands for foodstuffs.

Paramount attention will be given to measures aimed at economies and rational utilization of energy sources and at the optimal utilization of production capacities. Preference in this must be given to the modernization of existing capacities.

The Cuban leader went on to emphasize that during the last 5 years the people's basic efforts were channeled toward ensuring the motherland's defense. The organizational structure of regular troops of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] was improved. This makes it possible to maintain constant combat readiness and high standards of technical equipment for the troops and ensures great firepower, high maneuverability, and the ability of even small subunits to conduct combat operations independently.

Work was carried out jointly with state organizations to establish hundreds of various specialized formations for the more rational and better coordinated use of forces and facilities. More than 500,000 reservists were trained. Over 100,000 Cubans fulfilled their international duty outside the country's borders during the 5-year period. As a result of this, the FAR were augmented by a considerable contingent of well-trained reservists, many of whom have combat operations experience. Programs for the training of troops, staffs, and military education centers were improved and implemented in accordance with the concept of war waged by the whole people and with a view to giving them a more universal training making it possible to conduct combat operations under conditions of the enemy's military superiority and training them to wage a struggle using both conventional and guerrilla warfare methods.

During the brief 5-year period, almost 1.5 million men and women were divided into combat subunits and trained as part of the territorial people's resistance formations. Great efforts were made to train party and state leading workers at all levels. Over 100,000 persons attended special courses for taining to fulfill the tasks assigned to them.

The organizational structure of party and mass organizations in the event of war assumed its final structure and was improved. The process of automating staff command points using computers proceeded successfully. The installation of automated systems substantially improved the countrywide warning system. The organization of territorial antiair defense started.

The enemy will not catch us unawares, F. Castro stressed. The slogan "Fatherland or death! Victory will be ours!" is not just empty words.

The generations which launched and fought the war for our independence in the last century would be proud of the people who are today defending their banner and their ideas and are following their example.

We will never forget the nobility of the Soviet Union, which offered a helping hand immediately when we started needing arms, thus writing a vivid page in the history of heroic struggle and internationalism.

Today we can repeat with even great justification and confidence the words spoken at the first party congress: "For as long as imperialism exists, the party, the state, and the people will give maximum attention to the country's defense. Revolutionary vigilance will never slacken. History testifies too eloquently that those who forget this principle become victims of their own mistake."

As the revolution was consolidated, the Ministry of the Interior started giving more of its attention to questions of internal order and combating crime. During the period under review, a considerable proportion of the Ministry of the Interior's efforts were channeled toward the attainment of precisely this goal. Under the conditions of building socialism in close vicinity to the mightiest imperialist power, we must not underestimate the significance of antisocial behavior even if its causes are not political. On the other hand, the task of deepening and consolidating revolutionary morals and of ensuring our people's prosperity presuppose work to prevent, or impose the appropriate punishment for, such behavior. This is a matter for the whole of society, of all state organs, and of political and mass organizations, F. Castro emphasized.

The report gives much attention to the work of public and mass organizations -- the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the National Association of Small Farmers, the Federation of Cuban Women, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the students organizations, the Organization of Jose Marti Pioneers, the country's creative unions, and the Union of Young Communists [UJC].

Over 175,000 new members have joined the UJC's ranks in the period since the second congress. Today this organization has 597,853 full and candidate members. The expansion of its ranks was accompanied by significantly stricter requirements that have to be met by those joining the organizations and by students in particular. At present, strict requirements on joining the UJC are the only factor regulating the expansion of its ranks.

In the work of preparing young Communists for joining the party in the future, the speaker said, we strove for greater exactingness in the submission of recommendations, proceeding from the premise that recommendations should not be made for everyone who performs his duties, but only those who belong to the UJC vanguard.

During these years the UJC, through inspired and strenuous work, consolidated its role as the leading detachment of Cuban young people and active assistant of the party in the work on the communist education and training of the younger generation.

The PCC, F. Castro went on, rallies within its ranks 523,639 full and candidate party members and has 38,168 primary party organizations. During the previous 5-year period, 92,779 new members joined the party ranks and they always had to meet the highest requirements on joining.

Some 43.2 percent of all party members are working directly in production or the services sphere. If we were to add to them the lecturers, engineers, doctors, architects, and specialists with secondary education, this category of workers would represent almost 60 percent of total party membership.

The number of those joining the party from the UJC, which was 32 percent in 1980, rose to 57.8 percent in 1985. The ranks of party members will continue to swell during the next 5 years and about 70 percent of this additional membership should come from UJC members. The number of women in the party ranks increased by 18.8 percent in 1980 and by 21.5 percent in 1985.

The imposition of party requirements, in addition to their educational role, helped preserve the purity of party ranks. Work was done whose purpose was to make the masses aware of the party's implacable stance toward those of its members whose behavior renders them unworthy of the title of Communists.

The party played the main role in all the work done during the last few years to prepare and strengthen the country's defense. The party elaborated the appropriate structure and norms in the event of imperialist aggression against Cuba.

Certain successes were also scored in cadres policy, but this was insufficient for solving all the tasks set by the second party congress. A large proportion of full-time party workers have graduated from courses in the Nico Lopez Higher Party School, in provincial party schools, or abroad.

The party control and revisions committees make sure that complaints and statements exposing shortcomings, defects, or improper actions are properly examined, that appropriate measures are taken, that attention is paid to the authors of these statements, and that all actions stifling the spirit of criticism, which must be present in all revolutionaries, are extirpated.

The PCC Central Committee will continue to give particular attention to citizens' complaints and requests, because it considers that this is highly significant for the party's ties with the masses.

During the tense struggle in these years the party constantly developed as the great leading and rallying force of our society and a true exponent of the revolution's prestige, morals, conscience, and vigilance. Leading us with honor to the third congress, the party not only headed the entire activity for the country's material and spiritual transformation, but also continued its own transformation and improvement. We can claim with profound satisfaction that the PCC has come to its third congress stronger, more monolithic, and better organized than ever before, with much closer ties with the working class and other strata of the people.

In its ideological work, the party places fundamental stress on firmly instilling unbreakable loyalty to the principles of socialism and unwavering moral integrity in the Cuban people's political consciousness.

Our confidence in the future is based on socialism's ability, which has been proven by life, to inculcate in all members of society such qualities as enthusiasm for creative work, a spirit of solidarity among people, the loftiest patriotism, and the most consistent internationalism. Cuban society's humanism serves as a reliable shield against the merciless and cruel egoism typical of capitalist society.

Special attention in the ideology sphere was given during the past 5 years to imbuing working people with a high awareness and preparing the country to boldly stand up to and repulse any imperialist aggression. During this period, the revolutionary propaganda program also included such abiding tasks as the communist education of the young generation, propaganda of the Cuban people's combat traditions, clarification of capitalist society's crisis, explanation of our system's prospects and potential, and education in the spirit of observing the principles and norms of socialist legality.

Our people ardently supported the polemics at forums of the Nonaligned Movement, at the United Nations, at the Havana meetings on questions of external debt, and in the international press on issues concerning the quest for a correct way to solve the problem of terminating the arms race and of the proliferation of mass destruction weapons, which place mankind's existence in jeopardy.

The Cuban leader pointed out the need to continue work on improving the quality and professional standards of the press so that it may more fully satisfy the readers' needs and interests. We must aim at ensuring that our journalism is distinguished by its truthfulness, depth of meaning, and vividly expressed evaluations and judgments.

Our most important ideological and political task, F. Castro went on to declare, is the completion of the building of socialism and the improvement of our society. We are aware of our shortcomings and difficulties, and do not pass them over in silence.

Speaking of ideological work, the speaker stressed the need to raise it to an even higher level and to purge it of formalism and bureaucratic influence. It is necessary to seek a persuasive account of the party's policy in every sphere of economic and social development and a creative approach toward work in all organizations, to pay paramount attention to specific questions raised by working people, and to combine the study of Marxist-Leninist theory with the specific practice of building socialism.

In the years to come our main ideological weapon and correct guideline to action will be the party program, which indicates basic tasks. We must embark on their solution not only on questions of the country's economic and social development, but also in the development of communist awareness.

Dwelling on the world situation, F. Castro noted that over the past 5 years the international situation has been one of the tensest and most complex in the entire postwar period. It has been distinguished by the growth of the threat to peace and the real danger of nuclear war under the conditions of the very acute economic crisis in the capitalist system, whose catastrophic consequences have assailed the "Third World" countries.

U.S. imperialism and in particular, the Reagan administration bear full responsibility for the aggravation of international tension, the Cuban leader stressed.

Reagan and his advisers counted on military expenditure helping the survival of the severely ailing U.S. economy and achieving another aim at the same time: imposing an intolerable burden on the economy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and undermining their scientific-technical potential, which would delay the world socialist system's development.

The U.S. Administration has brought pressure to bear on its European NATO allies and Japan to force them to associate themselves with this policy. Thus, in implementing new and increasingly expensive arms projects, the U.S. Government has begun to deploy 572 medium-range missiles in Europe targeted against the Soviet Union. All this culminated recently in the so-called "star wars" program being put forward.

Despite the peoples' powerful and constantly growing movement for peace, which unites the most diverse forces and has found many supporters in the United States itself, the threat of nuclear war has become increasingly blatant. Only in the past few months have the, as yet, tentative signs of a return to detente appeared.

The sinister U.S. foreign policy course is to a considerable degree impeded by the unswerving resolve of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries to preserve peace by the resolute opposition of the progressive forces of Europe and the whole world, and by the staunch resistance of all revolutionary movements and "Third World" countries to policy of force and blackmail pursued by the United States.

The CPSU leadership has repeatedly come out with explicit, bold, and flexible proposals aimed at preserving peace and curbing the arms race. The initiative was thus taken away from the U.S. Government with its aggressive policy, as a result of which Reagan, who had formerly stated his reluctance to conduct talks with Soviet Union, was obliged to agree to the meeting in Geneva and to hold positive discussions lasting many hours and touching on a wide range of questions with M.S. Gorbachev outside the framework of official meetings between the two countries' representatives. No specific decisions were taken in Geneva, but the hope emerged that there would be changes which could lead to greater mutual understanding which in turn would help the implementation of serious steps to achieve detente and ensure peace.

The very fact that those who base their policy on the desire for military superiority have stated its unfeasibility and senselessness, that those who once stated they could emerge as victors from a nuclear war are today admitting this is impossible and that the unleashing of nuclear war must not be allowed, already attests to the possibility of changes.

On 15 January this year Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, in accordance with the principled line and positions adopted at the meeting in Geneva, set forth program of actions for the period through 2000 providing for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world. Never since the emergence of this terrible weapon of mass annihilation which has become a nightmare for all mankind, has such a categorical, resolute, and specific proposal been put forward.

This program was welcomed with universal approval.

Turning to the situation in Latin America, the Cuban leader stressed that the shameful occupation of Grenada, a small Carribbean island with a territory of little more than 400 square kilometers and a population of about 120,000, thousands of kilometers from U.S. shores, was a dramatic example of the return to the "big stick" policy which the Reagan administration is trying to pursue on a worldwide scale. The U.S. Government sent powerful military forces to Grenada, putting into practice the functions of world gendarme. True, the errors unfortunately committed by Grenada's own revolutionaries made it easier for imperialism to fulfill this shameful role. But that does not justify the U.S. Government's crimes.

El Salvador is a small Central American country whose people have for decades experienced the oppression of the harshest and most corrupt despotism, of pro-U.S. regimes under which in the past few years alone tens of thousands of citizens have been tortured and killed and vanished without trace. Reagan has given the rulers of that country billions of dollars in the form of armaments and military and economic aid. And these billions have fallen into the bloodstained hands of murderers who are seeking to completely suppress resistance and impose a military solution to the conflict at any price. All this is being done, as it has been before in Guatemala, Santo Domingo, Vietnam, and other countries, on the pretext of defending democracy in the world and U.S. security.

The staunchness and resistance of the Salvadoran revolutionaries is admirable -- they have shown imperialism the heroism, intelligence, and ability to struggle inherent in the peoples of Latin America and who are showing imperialism the limit of its power and strength.

Nicaragua and its young Sandinist revolution are the most graphic example of a return to the times of the imperialist "carrot and stick" policy. The present U.S. Administration has set itself the aim of destroying the Sandinist revolution, forcing it to capitulate and accept conditions imposed by the United States.

Nicaragua is living under conditions of a war financed by the Pentagon and the CIA. They are waging it through the hands of an army of mercenaries whose bases are situated in Honduras and Costa Rica.

But the wheel of history cannot be turned back. The Sandinists' firm and courageous resolve not to retreat has been obvious proof that the Cuban revolution was not an exception, that no power, however mighty, can impose its will on a revolution which knows how to defend itself. After long years of heroic struggle to preserve its national originality, Nicaragua is standing firm. It has substantial successes in the social sphere like the agrarian reform and the achievements in the field of education. These successes have been achieved despite the fact that the country is being subjected to acts of devastation measured in human lives.

The Yankees' inability to impose their policy in Central America by force is an expression of a deeper phenomenon which has arisen in the past 5 years -- the crisis of imperialist plans to rule in our America with the aid of military tyrannies, whose mainstay is genocide. Evidence of this is to be found in the collapse of the military junta in Argentina and R. Alfonsin's victory at the elections; Uruguay's return to a democratic system after long years of dictatorship no less bloody than in Argentina; the shift toward democracy in Brazil; the accession to power of a civilian government in Guatemala, where over 80,000 have disappeared without trace or been tortured or killed as a result of the repressions of the military regimes established by the CIA in 1954. The courageous people of Guatemala and its revolutionary movement have waged a selfless struggle all these years and have held out in it. Today they are raising their banners demanding political solutions. Other tangible changes have also taken place on the continent.

The formation of what has become known as the Contadora Group, in which Mexico plays an outstanding positive part, is part of this process. Despite the group's weaknesses and inconstancy [nepostoyanstvo] and counter to the inclination of some of its members to make concessions to Washington, it is an expression of the growing aspirations of the Latin American countries to achieve respect for their sovereignty and the solution of their problems by peaceful means, without U.S. interference or diktat, to achieve the defense of the right of each of its peoples to establish the social and political system they deem necessary.

The association of Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and Peru, who have created the "Latin American Contadora Support Group," to these efforts strengthens the authority of the Contadora Group.

From the outset Cuba has come out with unlimited support for the Sandinist revolution. The dispatch to that country of Cuban teachers, doctors, construction workers, and -- and we do not conceal the fact -- military advisers and state security advisers is a modest expression of our solidarity. Cuba has also taken part in the search for a settlement of the Central American conflict through negotiations. The United States must renounce its aggressive actions against the people of Nicaragua. Without that, demanding that Nicaragua adopt any undertakings would mean demanding the capitulation of the Sandinist revolution during negotiations and renouncing the country's sovereignty and independence.

Nor must we forget the need to find political solutions through negotiations for the war in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

An awareness of the need for Latin American and Caribbean unity is blazing a trail.

The activity of the Latin American economic system in which Cuba has participated from the outset is an expression of that.

The crisis which has shaken the economy of Latin America and the Caribbean Basin countries has put the region back to the 1977 level in terms of production output per capita. From 1980 through 1985 the average annual growth of the Latin American economy was negligible -- just 0.5 percent per capita. The inflation level rose 5.9 times. The foreign debts of Latin America and the Caribbean Basin had reached $368 billion in 1985. This year alone the Latin American countries paid the foreign capitalists $35.9 billion in interest and profit. Latin America and the Caribbean Basin are the most indebted regions of the world.

When we put forward the thesis of the impossibility of paying a debt, we base ourselves on irrefutable calculations and arguments. Indeed, with every passing day, with every hour, the payment of this debt becomes increasingly impossible. The sharp decline in prices for oil should finally persuade even the oil exporting countries in our hemisphere which once nurtured illusions regarding the possibility of paying off this colossal debt. We are convinced that both debtors and creditors will sooner or later be persuaded of the absolute impossibility of paying off this debt. Attempts to apply IMF formulas to its payment are fraught with the danger of social eruptions of unpredictable dimensions.

The formula put forward by Cuba is simple, comprehensible, and prefectly feasible: The governments of the developed creditor countries must assume the "Third World's" debt to their countries' banks. The 12 percent which now goes on military expenditure must go to cover the debts.

To this it must be added that simply quashing the debt will not resolve the profound crisis of the "Third World" countries. A new international economic order, which has already been approved by the United Nations, is needed. It would put an end to unequal exchange, protectionism, dumping, usurious interest rates and currency and financial machinations on the part of a few developed capitalist powers.

The United States is trying to gamble on a policy of strength in Africa, the Near East, and Asia, but it is suffering failure there also. On the southern Africa issue, the United States is helping the Republic of South Africa regime, trying at the same time to achieve an agreement between the South African racists and the People's Republic of Angola and to force the latter to agree to the withdrawal of the Cuban troops. All this is accompanied by a disregard for and distortion of the meaning of the UN Security Council Resolution No 435 aimed at safeguarding Namibia's security. Opposing the granting of independence to Namibia -- for which its people have been struggling for many years under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization -- Washington is trying to turn it into an object of neocolonialist exploitation by the Republic of South Africa and the United States. The United States is also trying to achieve a point where the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola enters into talks with J. Savimbi, who has betrayed Angola and entered into collusion with the South African racists.

Angola continues to stand firmly on its principled positions and is strengthening and developing its armed forces and resolutely opposing the escalation of hostilities.

The long-standing attempts to link Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of the contingent of Cuban internationalists have met a resolute rebuff from the international community, the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement. Namibia's independence and the cessation of the aggression against Angola and assistance to the gangs of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] mercenaries would make it possible to gradually withdraw a proportion of these forces, as Angola and Cuba have proposed.

But the solution of the question of the presence or withdrawal of the remaining forces and the circumstances and timing of the withdrawal of all forces is the exclusive prerogative of the governments of Angola and Cuba.

The U.S. threats against Libya and the blockading of that country creats an atmosphere of uncertainty in the Mediterranean and North Africa.

In the Near East the persistent U.S. efforts to strengthen Israel's positions have led to the point where not only has no solution been found to the dramatic problems in Lebanon, but the situation in the country has become even more tense and difficult. The complex problems of the Near East have been exacerbated because of differences between the Arab countries, with which we have always been linked by indestructible friendship and solidarity. The Palestinians, who have received almost worldwide support through the PLO, have experienced a tragic split and are continuing to suffer from it. Cuba, like other countries, has done everything within its modest powers to restore that unity.

The United States, F. Castro continued, is spending billions of dollars in an attempt to suppress the revolution in Afghanistan, but it cannot achieve that aim. It is time to halt U.S. imperialist interference in the Afghan people's internal affairs and to recognize their right to a peaceful life, he stressed.

India has exposed attempts to destabilize and split the country be fueling separatist sentiments, inflating intercommunity reprisals, and using terror. This extremely tense situation ended tragically in the assassination of our dear and profoundly respected friend Indira Gandhi. Rajiv Gandhi's explicit and confident actions have confirmed the impossibility of implementing the plans of India's enemies.

The positive approach to important questions of international life which China has demonstrated recently cannot fail to influence the evolution of the complex world situation in view of its undoubted importance for all Asia. The course China has steered toward achieving world peace, its undertaking as a nuclear power to renounce first use of these weapons, its denunciation of Reagan's "star wars" plan, and its support for the developing countries' demands in the field of international economic relations together with the correct position that country has taken with respect to Central American problems are part of this approach. On the other hand, the process of the exchange of delegations is developing and the general mood in relations with the Soviet Union is improving. These are all positive phenomena which must be welcomed. Nonetheless, members of our party know that despite the corresponding level of inter-state relations with China, there still remain some positions of the CPC on vitally important questions of international politics which do not and cannot have anything in common with our positions -- for instance the hostility toward Vietnam, the agressive actions against that country which, in its heroic struggle against imperialism, has also shed its blood for the independence of all "Third World" peoples. We hope the day will come when this hostility, which shadows relations between Cuba and China and prevents their improvement, will disappear.

If, to the resistance which Reagan's policy is meeting with and will always meet with on these three continents, we add the persistent rejection of this policy and disillusionment with it on the part of its own allies, the pointlessness of this policy and its alienation from modern life become obvious.

At the beginning of this 5-year period, the speaker continued, Cuba was chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. It was a difficult task in these difficult moments which I have already mentioned. Cuba's efforts aimed at halting the war between Iran and Iraq, which has always seemed to us absurd and leading to tragic consequences not only for these two countries, but also for the entire Nonaligned Movement -- these efforts are well known.

At the same time we have opposed the Israeli aggression in Lebanon and demanded the respect of the Palestinian people's rights. The Nonaligned Movement's activity has also been marked in Central America and in the war in the Malvinas Islands. In the United Nations a resolution denouncing the Republic of South Africa was adopted thanks largely to the actions of the Nonaligned Movement. Attention has constantly been paid to problems of the economic situation in the "Third World" and in the struggle for a new international economic order.

In the activity which our party has launched in the international arena in recent years, a decisive part belongs to the development and consolidation of the ties linking us with the communist parties of the whole world and in particular, with the parties of the countries of the socialist community, to which we also belong. For us the cohesion of the communist movement with complete mutual respect and freedom of opinion for each member is an important factor in the struggle for the development of socialism and the implementation of the overall strategy of peace and progress. Everyone knows well the role of the CPSU in fulfilling this historic task.

As the first socialist country, possessing an enormous economic potential and undoubted military might, retaining loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the Soviet Union is a decisive component of the historical forces of the present day. The CPSU, he stressed, is our closest friend, our loyal political ally. At the same time, every party, large or small, belonging to this great movement will always be worthy of our country's great respect and recognition.

Right now, F. Castro continued, Cuba maintains diplomatic relations with 121 states and has consulates in a further 2 countries. These figures are enough to note the failure of the policy of imperialism, which is trying to beleaguer and politically isolate the Cuban revolution.

In the Cuban state's international activity great priority is attached and special attention is paid to relations with the Soviet Union. These exemplary relations are manifested not only in the rendering of constant political support and the provision of invaluable military aid ensuring Cuba's defense, but also, as has frequently been noted, in the fact that the Soviet Union has laid the foundation for economic relations with Cuba of a kind which can be viewed as a new international economic order according with the aspirations of the world's underdeveloped countries. The long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between Cuba and the Soviet Union for the period through 2000 serves as confirmation of this.

Close cooperation with the other socialist community countries who are CEMA member is developing to varying degrees and with a consideration for specific potential. With the Soviet Union these countries are our main partners.

The close friendship and mutual solidarity with the DPRK and with the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea are part of our relations with the socialist world and are reflected equally in our firm friendly ties and cooperation with the SFRY. Our relations with the PRC, with which we implement broad trade exchange and maintain positive contacts at government level, are developing normally. Our relations with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania were beneficially developed.

In our relations with the developed capitalist countries we have been guided by the policy of conventional exchange and mutually advantageous cooperation based on mutual respect, irrespective of the nature of our social systems. Cuba assesses positively the fact that in the period under review the course proclaimed by the United States toward establishing a total economic and financial blockade against our country failed to meet with a response in the EEC or Japan.

Touching on relations with the United States, the speaker pointed out that when it came to power the present U.S. Administration immediately adopted an extremely aggressive stance with respect to Cuba, which led to the intensification of the economic blockade and to the even greater toughening, compared with previous periods, of the measures preventing our normal trade and financial activity. It was stated without a twinge of conscience that new plans were being elaborated for military aggression and acts of subversion against our country. The United States continued to violate Cuba's air space with unprecedented shamelessness.

Our party again states at this congress that Cuba, as has already frequently been indicated, does not refuse to sit at the conference table to discuss the protracted conflict with the United States and achieve peace and the improvement of relations between our countries. We believe that this would help improve the political climate in the region and would to a certain degree also influence the political situation in the world. But these negotiations should take place on the basis of full respect for our country, forbidding the slighest encroachment on its independence. This will only become possible when the United States decides to conduct serious negotiations with us and is ready to hold them in a spirit of parity, mutual advantage, and the fullest mutual respect.

The time when this imperialist power ruled in our country as though it were its own estate have disappeared into the past. The doggedness, persistence, and steadfastness thanks to which we have held out for these past 27 years, the life-tested loyalty to our principles, the determination with which we fulfill the tasks aimed at creating a new world and a society of justice, the unswerving convictions with which we are laying the foundation to the future, and the heroism with which we have defended and are always ready to defend the cause of our revolution give us the right to demand that everyone takes account of our people and assesses them at their worth.

In conclusion, F. Castro said: Comrade delegates! Thanks to the fact that throughout these years we have taken correct decisions and worked persistently, our motherland has become even stronger, our economy firmer, our experience richer, our party more militant, and our people more mature, cohesive, self-confident, and revolutionary.

It will soon be 30 years since the landing from the Granma. Looking back over the path we have travelled, we can say that whereas before there was not even a guideline to show us the way to our goal, today our congresses are beacons illuminating safe harbors where the ship of revolution regularly puts in to plot its further course on the oceans of history.

It is no longer a case of a handful of people on a small yacht who had more ideas than weapons, but of an enormous, strong ship which fears neither waves, nor wind, nor storms. Its cargo is made up of precisely those dreams which have become reality and the reality is intermingled with dreams which are still to be realized.

Let's set ourselves the goal of redoubling our efforts and we swear that if at any moment our work seems to us to be good, we must struggle for it to become still better and when it has become better, we will struggle for it to achieve perfection. We know that a Communist does not stop at what has been achieved and that for him nothing accomplished by human hands will be perfect enough.

(F. Castro's report was listened to with attention and accompanied by applause.)

THIRD PCC CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS OUTLINED

PM091951 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by unnamed TASS special correspondent under the rubric "Third Communist Party of Cuba Congress": "Monolithic Unity of Party and People"]

[Text] Havana, 7 Feb -- The Third Communist Party of Cuba Congress, taking place here, has become a graphic new demonstration of the monolithic unity of the party and the entire Cuban people and of the loyalty and devotion of the Republic's Communists to the great teaching -- Marxism-Leninism -- to the cause of building socialism and communism, and to the principles of proletarian internationalism.

It was with great enthusiasm that the congress delegates approved a resolution on the report delivered by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers. The resolution emphasizes that the report is an important political and analytical document and a model showing how every Communist must take a self-critical approach to assessing the work done and realistically define new tasks. The delegates to the third congress, the resolution points out, fully approved all the points in the report and, taking the importance of this document into consideration, adopted a decision to study it attentively in all the country's party, youth, trade union, and other mass organizations.

The Draft PCC Program occupies an important place among the documents adopted at the congress. It outlines the immediate tasks and the ultimate goals of the revolutionary process, which at the present stage consist of completing the building of socialism and specific ways to implement them in each sphere. The document defines the aims and demands being set in national economic strategy and in social policy, as well as the prospects for development in the spheres of education, science, literature, and art. The draft program formulates the principles and aims of the foreign policy of the party and Government of Cuba, the chief tasks in the sphere of defending the socialist homeland, and the main directions of ideological work.

As the resolution emphasizes, the congress adopted a decision to approve the draft of this document and to submit it for examination by the people, for analysis and discussion involving all party, youth, trade union, and other organizations. In this way every citizen will be able to make comments and express views, which will make it possible to finally examine and adopt a PCC Program enriched as a result of broad popular discussion at a special session of the third congress planned toward the end of 1986. The congress believes that the program will become the chief document of the party and the revolution.

The congress delegates discussed and unanimously approved the Basic Guidelines for Cuba's Socioeconomic Development for 1986-1990. This document reflects PCC strategy in the spheres of the republic's economy and sociopolitical development for the new 5-year period and the longer term. One of the key tasks, the document emphasizes, is the need to continue the policy of strengthening economic cooperation with the socialist countries in every possible way. It is pointed out here that this process should be oriented toward Cuba's broader participation in the international socialist division of labor and in trade exchange with the CEMA countries, as well as toward achieving maximum economic integration with them. The policy of enhancing national economic efficiency in every possible way will be continued. Here the determining factors for further economic growth will be the expansion of exports and the reduction of imports, above all, from capitalist countries, the improvement of the system of planning and management, the efficient utilization of natural resources, the struggle to save them, and the speediest introduction of progressive technology into production.

The congress unanimously approved a resolution on some changes to the PCC Statutes reflecting the great experience accumulated by the party over the past 5 years and also the growth in its ranks.

The participants in the party forum unanimously approved a resolution on foreign policy. It points out that the chief aim of party policy in the international arena was and still is to promote the strengthening of socialism, the cause of the peoples' liberation and progress, and the defense and strengthening of peace. Cuban Communists express complete confidence in this policy based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, on close cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries, on close ties with the world communist, workers, and revolutionary movement, and on active solidarity with national liberation movements and with peoples struggling for their development, sovereignty, and genuine independence.

The congress believes the struggle for peace is a vitally important task to whose fulfillment the party, the state, and all mass public organizations must devote special attention. Peace and socialism are inseparable concepts, the resolution emphasizes.

As the resolution points out, the congress delegates support the report's assessment of the Soviet-U.S. summit dialogue, as well as the need to further mobilize world public opinion for the struggle against the policy of confrontation being pursued by U.S. imperialism.

Cuban Communists welcome the Soviet Union's efforts aimed at preserving peace and changing the development of the international situation for the better and note the great personal contribution of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the cause of strengthening peace. They assess his statement, containing a specific program for the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons and also the prevention of the militarization of space, as an initiative enjoying the warm support of the Communists and the entire people of Cuba.

The congress delegates confirmed the historic and unbreakable nature of Soviet-Cuban friendship. The exemplary, profoundly internationalist relations between our countries, the resolution emphasizes, are an extremely important factor in Cuba's international activity. The strengthening and development of these relations is a constant direction of Cuban foreign policy.

The forum took special note of the fraternal nature of ties with the socialist countries' parties, governments, and peoples and expressed the immutable desire to constantly strengthen them. The congress delegates emphasized that the PCC attaches paramount significance to the strengthening of ties with communist parties throughout the world and also to its participation in the international communist movement, where it will preserve its internationalist positions and struggle to strengthen the movement's influence and its unity with all progressive, anti-imperialist forces operating in the world arena.

The resolution characterizes in detail socialist Cuba's relations with various countries of the world and notes its immutable support for peoples waging a stubborn struggle against reactionary proimperialist regimes.

The congress, the document states, expresses full agreement with the report's assessment of the positive aspects both in the PRC's internationl policy and in bilateral relations. At the same time it points out that the PRC's hostility toward Vietnam prevents an improvement in relations between Cuba and the United States are at their lowest level since the present U.S. Administration acceded to power.

Washington's anti-Cuban policy over the past 5 years has been characterized by aggressiveness, the imposition of an economic blockade, subversive radio broadcasts, threats and the drawing up of aggressive plans, and the illegal usurpation of the part of Cuban territory on which the naval base at Guantanamo is situated. The contradictions with the U.S. Administration must be surmounted on the basis of strict respect for Cuba's independence and sovereignty. Responding to the imperialist policy of threats and blackmail, the congress noted the readiness of the armed Cuban people to defend their revolution and independence.

The congress expressed the will of the party and the entire people to continue advancing, united around Fidel Castro and the PCC Politburo and Central Committee, toward new victories of socialism and proletarian internationalism.

TEXT OF CPSU MESSAGE TO PANAMANIAN PARTY CONGRESS

PM301539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Eighth People's Party of Panama (PPP) Congress.

Dear Comrades! The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal greetings to the Eighth PPP Congress delegates and all Panamanian Communists.

Ever since the party of Panamanian Communists appeared, it has been in the front ranks of those fighting for the vital interests of working people, for the strengthening of the country's independence, and for the establishment of Panamanian national sovereignty over the canal zone seized by U.S. imperialism. At the moment, the PPP is vigorously advocating the country's democratic and independent development and continuation of the social transformations begun under the leadership of that outstanding Panamanian patriot, General Omar Torrijos Herrera, and opposing foreign and domestic reaction's intrigues and the militarist course of the aggressive imperialist circles.

The question of delivering mankind from the threat of a nuclear war is currently at the center of world politics. We see the PPP's full support for the range of new Soviet peace-loving initiatives as evidence of communist solidarity in the struggle to solve this cardinal problem of modern times. As is known, the Soviet Union has announced the extension of the moratorium on all nuclear explosions to 31 March 1986; has again urged the United States to follow this example; has put forward a detailed program for the stage-by-stage complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, given an accord on the prohibition of the development (sozdaniye), testing, and deployment of nuclear space weapons; and has proposed the elimination of chemical weapons in this century. The implementation of these initiatives would ensure a dramatic change for the better in the development of international relations and would alter the world situation. A vigorous struggle by all peoples would help implement these highly humanitarian aims.

Soviet communists highly value the PPP's internationalist stance and its solidarity with the socialist community, with the new Nicaragua, which is protecting its independence and chosen path of development against imperialist encroachments, and with the liberation struggle of the other Central and South American peoples.

We wish you a successful congress and we hope the party will grow stronger still and its influence among the broad people's masses increase.

Long live the PPP! May relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and between the Soviet and Panamanian peoples strengthen and develop!

CPSU Central Committee

FBIS DAILY REPORT
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SOVIET RESTRAINT ON TESTING DECLARED 'NOT INFINITE'

PM121654 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Moratorium Is a Step Toward Peace Without Weapons"]

[Text] People live in hope. Whether growing grain or building houses, casting steel or drilling for oil, teaching children or creating new knowledge -- they remember the aim of their work and think about the future, about why they are alive and what they are working for. And they strive to leave something good behind them: to ensure that gardens blossom and grain grows; to ensure that children play and have happy lives; to ensure that peace reigns on earth.

That is why millions of people are listening with hope to the voice of our country and its noble call: To enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons; to eliminate the threat of nuclear catastrophe hanging over mankind; to make the power of the atom serve peace and peace alone. These goals are close to and understood by all people of goodwill -- irrespective of where they live or what they do. And we are rightly proud that it is our country -- the motherland of October and the first land of victorious socialism -- and our Leninist party striding toward its 27th Congress that placed such an inspiring, large-scale, and realistic program before the world.

In anything, the first step and the first movement toward the goal are particularly important. The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, calls the ending of nuclear arms tests a practical step toward the elimination of these deadly weapons. Its importance -- for specialists and scientists, for politicians and military men, and for all sober-minded people -- is obvious. Ending tests means putting a stop to the improvement of terrible weapons and extinguishing the fire in the nuclear hearth. Ending tests means embarking in practice on the difficult but totally necessary work of saving mankind from the fear of being incarcerated in a nuclear holocaust. Ending tests means meeting each other halfway along the road of strengthening trust, the road of mutual understanding -- for the sake of life on earth and a peaceful future. What could be higher or more moral or noble than this great goal?

The Soviet Union is setting an example of serving the cause of peace -- not in words, but in deeds. We recall that in 1946 our country proposed declaring nuclear weapons illegal. It can only be regretted that its initiative and warning were not heeded by those who had previously sent aircraft with deadly cargoes to incinerate and wipe Hiroshima and Nagasaki from the face of the earth, those who would like to use the nuclear bomb as an instrument of political blackmail and keep people in the trap of fear of the nuclear threat.

When the poignant 40th anniversary of the Hiroshima tragedy was being marked worldwide the Soviet Union again proved that it is rightly called the standard-bearer of peace. The Soviet Union announced the introduction of a moratorium until the end of 1985 on all nuclear explosions and called on the United States to follow our example. Had the U.S. Administration responded to that call and taken the step the peoples expected of it, nuclear explosions could have been ended. One can understand the profound disappointment and concern of the world's public caused by the new underground nuclear weapons tests held by the U.S. side -- despite the peoples' protests and will and despite the voice of reason.

It is impossible not to notice and not to realize that these actions by Washington pursue the goal of attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union and dictating its will to the socialist community countries and other peoples. But we know and firmly declare: This is an unattainable dream. This is a fruitless and dangerous policy.

In the face of the Pentagon's military preparations the Soviet Union cannot display infinite unilateral restrain on nuclear tests. Peace will become lasting and unbreakable if all states make their contribution to safeguarding and strengthening it. Our country is again making efforts to influence the stance of others by the force of its example. The extension of the moratorium on all nuclear explosions until 31 March is yet another gesture of goodwill by the Land of the Soviets, yet another attempt to halt the dangerous development of events before it is too late. This moratorium will remain in force if the United States also halts nuclear testing.

The USSR's stance is clear and fully corresponds with the interests of all peoples. We are in favor of blocking the channels for modernization of nuclear weapons and the opportunities to create [sozdavat] and test [oprobovat] new and increasingly sophisticated varieties of them on test sites. The monitoring [kontrol] of the termination of tests is no problem for us: It can be ensured by national technical means and also with the help of international procedures -- and on-site inspections when necessary. The Soviet Union has invited the United States to reach agreement on this.

We are in favor of the moratorium becoming a bilateral and subsequently, a multilateral action. We are in favor of resuming talks between the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests. The Soviet Union is prepared for multilateral test ban talks within the framework of the Geneva Disarmament Conference in which all nuclear powers would take part. We agree with the nonaligned countries' proposals to hold consultations for the purpose of extending the validity of the 1963 Moscow Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Underwater. Briefly, the Soviet Union welcomes any practical step leading to a peaceful goal.

Now it is up to the United States. Can the peoples of the world understand the position taken by those who, instead of giving a clear-cut answer to the USSR's call, continue, as before, to search for "submerged reefs" and "propaganda traps" in our proposals? Those who are accelerating the implementation of the "star wars" program and are stepping up their allies' involvement in it? Those who do not appear to have learned any lessons from the Challenger tragedy, which showed how dangerous the U.S. plans to place space weapons in earth orbit are for world civilization? No, such a position is impossible to understand and even more impossible to justify!

In their letters to newspaper editorial offices and in statements to the press, ordinary people and politicians from various countries are talking about their support for the Soviet's proposals and linking hopes for curbing the arms race to them. The White House must also heed the voice of the millions. History will not be forgiving if the chance offered by the Soviet Union's initiative is missed.

We believe peace will be preserved. It is within people's power to halt and ban all nuclear weapon tests and clear away the stockpiles of such weapons. This must be done as soon as possible. This is what common sense dictates. This is what the time demands.

SOVIET EXPERTS EXPLAIN MISSILE WITHDRAWAL PROPOSALS

AU122200 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Raimund Lowe report on Soviet press conference in Vienna's Concordia press club today]

[Text] This morning a delegation of Soviet experts in the crammed hall of Vienna's Concordia press club explained that, as before, Moscow is still waiting for a positive Western response to the Soviet proposal for halving the strategic nuclear weapons of the two superpowers with the prospect of the complete destruction of all nuclear arms stockpiles throughout the world.

Four high-ranking Soviet foreign policy experts and military men faced questions from Western journalists for almost 2 hours, an event that would have been most unusual even a few years ago. Today, however, it is evidently part and parcel of the style of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. Andrey Grachev, head of the powerful information department of the CPSU Central Committee [as heard], pointed out that he was delighted to see the increased international interest in Soviet domestic and foreign policy in recent times. He said the delegation had come in order to meet this demand. The specific reason for the visit to Vienna: The explanation of the disarmament initiative presented by Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January.

Andrey Grachev:

[Begin recording in Russian fading into German translation] The gist of the new complex of Soviet peace initiatives is a program calculated for 15 years and it is intended to completely eliminate the nuclear arsenals gradually up to 2000. Under a three-stage plan, according to Gorbachev's proposal, the United States and the Soviet Union shall, up to 1990, halve their strategic nuclear weapons. The tactical nuclear weapons and the nuclear arsenals of France and Great Britain shall also be reduced in the nineties and the world should be free of nuclear weapons at the beginning of the new millenium. Under a worldwide agreement, all states of the earth should bind themselves to never again build nuclear weapons. In order to make this visionary plan also appear realistic, the Soviet Union has halted its nuclear tests as a unilateral advance concession which is limited till 31 March [end recording]

The big snag in all this is that Moscow regards Washington's renunciation of SDI as a precondition. Ronald Reagan's pet project, the Strategic Defense Initiative, also termed "star wars," shall not be realized. The Soviet side charges the United States with taking a gigantic step ahead in the arms race through SDI. But is not research in the same area also being conducted in the Soviet Union? Andrey Kokoshin; deputy director of the United States and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences says: [Begin recording in Russian fading into German translation] Such assertions do not contain a grain of truth. The Soviet Union does not develop either offensive space weapons nor is there any research work being undertaken to create an antimissile system in outer space to protect our own territory. [end recording]

But have not Red Army generals themselves time and again pointed out that Soviet scientists are very capable of utilizing outer space for the protection of their territory? [Begin recording] The Soviet Union has indeed carried out work to develop antisatellite weapons. This is true. This was done after the United States developed a series of systems which it subsequently renounced. In any case, the Soviet antisatellite system has not been tested. And the Soviet Union has imposed a moratorium on itself since August 1983. [end recording]

Gorbachev also made a spectacular proposal for Europe, the continent which bristles with the most weapons, provided NATO was ready to withdraw the new intermediate range missiles -- Pershing-2 and cruise missiles.

Nikolay Portugalov, also a representative of the information department of the CPSU Central Committee says: [Begin recording in German] We are ready to liquidate the SS-20 missile in the European zone, in the European sector of the Soviet Union, something that means absolutely unequivocally: to destroy them. And it is not only the missiles that will be destroyed, but also the pertinent infrastructure, that is, everything connected with the launching pads.

Well, the European sector which I mentioned before not only extends to the Ural Mountains, but to the 80th meridian of longitude, that is, virtually to a limit where our missiles -- intermediate range missiles -- can no longer reach the territories of the European NATO countries.

There exists no linkage at all between all the other Soviet proposals, including "star wars," the ban on extending the arms race into outer space, and our other proposals, and the proposal for destroying intermediate range missiles in the European sector. This is absolutely unambiguous. [end recording]

In plain words this means that even without an agreement on "star wars," Moscow would be ready for disarmament in the intermediate weapons sector in Europe. Beautiful words, which must, undoubtedly, be seen within the framework of a worldwide propaganda battle between East and West. But propaganda with disarmament proposals should be preferred to threatening military gestures any time.

Portugalov Statement on SS-20's

AU130943 Vienna Television Service in German 1830 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt from statement by Nikolay Portugalov, "representative of the information department at the CPSU Central Committee," at a press conference in the Vienna Concordia press club on 12 February - videotaped]

[Text] Our proposal is completely clear: We are ready to liquidate the SS-20 missiles in the European zone, the European sector of the Soviet Union, which, to be absolutely unequivocal, means to destroy them. And it is not only the missles that will be destroyed, but also the pertinent infrastructure, that is, everything connected with the launching pads.

It is frequently held against us that these are mobile systems which could quite easily and at rather short notice be moved back from Asia to Europe. Our proposal does not aim at organizing the moving back and forth of missiles. One does not adopt a commitment in order to immediately violate it. But there are also some objective conditions which make this appear extremely difficult to understand [voellig ababstrus]. Look here, if one were to operate with such logic, then one could say: The Americans, according to the data and information of our general staff -- and our supreme general staff will probably bear me out on this -- have by now already produced nearly 900 Pershing missiles. Now, I am wondering: They have deployed -- well, 108, officially, in the FRG, according to official reports, and with some spares, according to press reports. What do they need another, roughly 700, for, then? There is no use for them in the United States. Thus, at a suitable opportunity they can be brought to Europe and with (?big lift) even much faster than [we could bring ours] with our infrastructure from Siberia.

ENVOYS OUTLINE SOVIET POSITION ON EUROPEAN MISSILES

LD121834 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] [Announcer] The possibilities of reaching an agreement on nuclear disarmament in Europe now seem to be brighter than they were for a long time. The Soviet Union has relinquished its earlier demands for an agreement with the United States on medium-range missiles in Europe. This was made clear by specially sent envoys from Moscow at at press conference at the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm today.

[Correspondent Gueran Skaansberg] At the press conference at the Soviet Embassy today it was confirmed very definitely that the Soviet Union no longer sets the same conditions as earlier for an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe. Earlier it was (?demanded) that the United States should end all research and development on space weapons, the so-called "star wars," in order that there should be, on the whole, an agreement on other weapons. This is not demanded now.

The proposal to withdraw the U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe, which was presented by party leader Gorbachev a month ago and which is part of Gorbachev's program for dismantling all nuclear weapons by the year 2000 is not in itself linked with (?the demand) concerning the U.S. space weapons. This was made quite clear by Moscow's envoys at the press conference at the Soviet Embassy today.

The Soviet leadership is not making the same linkage now, between its own medium-range missiles and the British and French nuclear weapons. The only conditions set here is that Great Britain and France must not increase their nulcear weapons arsenals.

This signifies an entirely new Soviet attitude. It coincides largely with the so-called zero option, which President Reagan proposed in 1981 and which consisted of the United States refraining from the deployment of new missiles in Western Europe if the Soviet Union in return withdrew its SS-20 missiles. Reagan (?has already) responded positively to the Soviet proposal. He did this in an interview on Monday [10 February] when Senator Edward Kennedy, following his visit to Moscow, conveyed the new lines of thought there.

The fact that the Soviet Union is now sending special envoys to West European countries, including Sweden, to present more concisely the [words indistinct] in Gorbachev's disarmament proposals shows how seriously they view the possibilities of getting somewhere in the disarmament talks between the superpowers. But even if the signals are now more positive than they were for a long time, this is a process that will take a very long time and which can easily turn to disappointment. This is a lesson the peoples in Europe have learned by now.

U.S. STRATEGY USES EUROPE AS NUCLEAR BUFFER

LD121750 Moscow TASS Inernational Service in Russian 1615 GMT 12 Feb 86

["Why Does the Pentagon Need Nuclear Missiles in Europe?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Feb -- TASS observer on military questions Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Pentagon representatives recently assured the world public that the present U.S. Administration was prepared to destroy "a whole class of medium-range missile weapons." But now they are stating that adoption by the United States of the Soviet proposal for the total elimination of these same Soviet and U.S. missiles in the European zone is "undesireable." To be more precise, the U.S. military leaders are not against the destruction of all Soviet medium-range missiles, and not just in Europe, but they categorically object to the simultaneous elimination of U.S. "Pershings" and cruise missiles in the FRG, Britain, and in the other European NATO countries.

In an interview with the West German newspaper NEUE OSNABRUECKER ZEITUNG, U.S. General Bernard Rogers, commander in chief of NATO troops in Europe, stated that the United States must keep its "Pershing" and cruise missiles on the European Continent as they "are a connecting link between European and U.S. security." Rogers went on to assert that the mutual elimination of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in the European zone would be disadvantageous for NATO. According to him, Soviet SS-20 missiles "could reach Europe from the other side of the Urals, too." While the United States, you see, would not have medium-range nuclear weapons capable of reaching Soviet territory.
The general is clearly pretending to be an ill-informed simpleton, while attempting to denigrate, using every means, the very idea of any reductions or even limitations in U.S. nuclear armaments in Western Europe, which are so dear to his heart.

While describing the advancement of the Soviet proposals as "a positive factor," Rogers at once resorts to the crudest distortions of the true state of affairs in Europe and of the essence of the Soviet initiatives on medium-range missiles.

The Soviet proposal provides for the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles, not within the geographical framework of Europe, but in the European zone which stretches from the Atlantic Ocean in the west and, in the east, far beyond the Urals, right up to the line from which Soviet medium-range missiles would not be able to reach targets in Western Europe.

Washington's objections to a mutual reduction in the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone are not at all caused by considerations of "the linkage of U.S. and West European security." The point is that the Pentagon does not like any measures that contribute to the normalization of the military-political situation on the European Continent, nor does it like agreements that might strengthen the security of all European countries or raise obstacles to U.S. plans for the attainment of military superiority.

U.S. military strategy places the main emphasis on preparations for a "limited" nuclear war in Europe -- at a significant distance from U.S. shores. According to this strategy, it is the Europeans who must pay, first and foremost, for U.S. military adventures. U.S. "Pershings" and cruise missiles are intended to become the main instrument of this strategy.

It is precisely for this reason Rogers is insisting on keeping U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

CHERVOV DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS

LD122034 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1705 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Report on interview with Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, department head in the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, by correspondent Horst Grothe -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Announcer] The worldwide discussions on the peace and disarmament proposals put forward by General Secretary of the CPSU Mikhail Gorbachev show how important these proposals are for the vital interests of the peoples. The proposals particularly involve, as is well-known, a three-stage plan for nuclear disarmament and the complete removal of nuclear weapons. But, as Horst Grothe asked Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, department head in the USSR Armed Forces General Staff:

[Begin recording] [Grothe, in Russian with superimposed German translation] Comrade Chervov, in what way does the peace program take into account conventional armaments?

[Chervov, in Russian with superimposed German translation] The reduction and limitation of conventional armed forces also appears in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement as an inseparable element in our peace program. In the West it is generally stressed that the Soviet Union has superiority over the NATO countries. For this reason, nuclear disarmament is said to be a trap to give superiority to the Warsaw Pact. In reality, this is not the case; this is disinformation. But this question is not new. Currently, there exists between the Warsaw Pact and the armed forces of the NATO countries approximate parity in conventional armed forces.

How is the reality in this question (?distorted) in the West?

First of all there is talk of an inequality in conventional armed forces. But NATO does not include the armed forces of France and Spain in this. The available reserves are not counted either. In addition, NATO only takes into account the conventional forces that are under the command of General Rogers. But there are also others. There are armed forces which are under the national command of these NATO states. Nor are reserved formations counted. With regard to the Soviet Union everything is counted. In addition, the numbers are given exactly, while NATO (miscounted) them.

It would be a secret from no one, and it could not be hushed up, if a total count of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO were undertaken. Then the following would have to be counted. The NATO countries have almost double the population -- to be exact it is 1.7 times higher. That means that the NATO countries have a superiority in human resources. In addition, the NATO countries have highly organized, well trained, strongly deployed armed forces that are not inferior to the Warsaw Pact in many weapon types.

For example, I could name the number of combat-ready divisions. On the Warsaw Pact side there are currently 78 divisions in Europe; on the NATO side, 94. In the United States the strength of a division is 19,000 men and the strength in the FRG, 24,000. The divisional strength in the countries of the Warsaw Pact is, in contrast 11,000-12,000. That means that in the number of combat-ready divisions and the strength of these divisions the advantage is made much of.

The Warsaw Pact is said to have a great advantage in tanks and, for that reason, there could be no disarmament. None of this is correct. Here, too, the picture is distorted: First of all, only the number of tanks that Rogers commands are counted. Some say 12,000, others 14,000, sometimes the talk is of 18,000, although in truth there are over 20,000 tanks under Rogers' command. In addition, the West European countries have another 6,000 tanks in reserve; the United States has 2,500 tanks in reserve and they could easily be brought across the ocean by plane. They only need to be manned and then form further combat-ready divisions. In short, in the number of tanks, also, the NATO countries are not behind the Warsaw Pact.

As regards anti-tank equipment they have a superiority. There is an approximate balance of forces in artillery and other armored troops. The Warsaw Pact has a slight superiority in tactical air forces. But, by and large, even according to Western sources and also according to our own analysis, there exists an approximate balance in conventional armed forces. It is not by chance that the London Institute for Strategic Studies, which really no one could accuse of being pro-Warsaw Pact or pro-Soviet, gives an objective assessment in 1985 in its published annual report, where it stands in black and white that today the weapons potential of both pacts is such that neither one side nor the other can begin a war with the aim of winning it, because their military strength is approximately equal. So, the so-called question of conventional weapons has been thought out and disseminated by those who do not want any nuclear disarmament, but rather want to continue the arms race.

I would like to stress the following, which has been said in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, that currently [words indistinct] at a reduction in conventional armaments. We do not want to expand, but reduce. And both sides should also reduce their conventional armed forces. In addition, we are putting forward at the Stockholm conference a series of proposals to strengthen mutual trust. In particular, the Warsaw Pact proposes a treaty on nonaggression and the renunciation of the use of force, both with nuclear and with conventional weapons. Therefore, in addition to the resolution of the problem of the balance of strength, of nuclear disarmament, the measures which we have proposed in Vienna, as in Stockholm, involve the problem of the consolidation of peace and security. [end recording]

'CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE' LACKING IN U.S. ACTIONS

PM121001 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Valentin Falin "Political Observer's Opinion": "Washington Is Blocking Movement"]

[Text] In meterology there is a phenomenon called blocking. This is when a strong front, usually of high atmospheric pressure, forms and hinders the normal seasonal atmospheric processes.

There are blocking phenomena in politics, also. But instead of occuring spontaneously in nature, they are created by man. Tension and conflicts take over from cooperation and detente; not because night inevitably follows day, but because of shifts in the intentions and views of people in power due to the fact that certain people feel more comfortable living in a black and white world.

Here is a concrete example. Even on the Atlantic Olympus not everyone can understand why the United States opposes halting underground nuclear explosions on a permanent or temporary basis. Over to the West German representative: As long as NATO military doctrines are based on the use of nuclear weapons, Ruehl said, there can be no question of abandoning tests.

A single sentence, yet more pregnant with meaning that any speech! It admits that the United States and its allies are the initiators of the nuclear arms race. It confirms that the NATO bloc is continuing to prepare for nuclear war and does not intend to restrict its "freedom" of action in that area. Finally, it strips off all the camouflage that has been used in the past -- references to "inadequate" or "unreliable" verification. Since the proposals put forward on 15 January by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, which envisage international inspection [inspektsiya] as well as national verification [kontrol] such references are death rather than salvation.

It is unpleasant, certainly, but there is nothing for it -- you have to reveal all, even if you risk your reputation. But it is a small risk: Deception in "democratic" circles is so common that it is more conspicuous by its absence, especially when it is posing as a "special opinion," as a sign of "deep thought," and, finally as an "honest mistake." For he who does nothing makes no mistakes and consequently, he who makes no mistakes does nothing useful.

But perhaps Bonn has gone over the top in saying that nuclear disarmament or even partial measures toward it are incompatible with the doctrine of the chief imperialist military bloc? Alas, not at all. The FRG Government is merely shifting the boss' globalism from the major key to a register that is less of an assault on the West European ear. It is in the forefront of those who are trying to divert public attention from the discrepancies between the Washington administration's words and actions which have become even more obvious, glaringly so, against the background of Geneva.

No, it was by no means accidental that there was no hint of a mention of the November summit in Reagan's "State of the Union" message, delivered in Congress the other day. To be accurate, the purpose of the foreign policy section would be seen as the antithesis of Geneva.

In Geneva the U.S. head of state signed a statement stressing the need to prevent a nuclear or any other war and to prevent an arms race in space. Two months later the same politician signed a draft budget pressing for a 75-percent increase in appropriations for research on the "star wars" program and a 25-percent increase in overall military expenditure in the immediate future.

To stir the military-industrial complex, the "defense secretary's report" was also handed to Congress. In it C. Weinberger spoke of the "need to press for a continued review of the concepts we (the administration) have inherited" and predicted that "our (U.S.) strategists will be tackling this task for many years to come."

According to Weinberger, solutions are needed which "differ substantially from the approach of those who concluded and proposed ratification of the SALT II treaty." And who, let it be said, acknowledge the importance of actual observance of the treaty's provisions now, despite the U.S. refusal to ratify it in the manner stipulated by the country's laws. Solutions are needed which will overturn all previous agreements and treaties which have entered into force, if Washington considers them to be an embarrassment either now or in the future.

What the minister dislikes above all is the treaty of unlimited duration on limiting ABM systems. "If through painstaking research," he said at the Senate Armed Services Committee meeting on 5 February, "we manage to develop [razrabotat] a reliable anti-missile defense system, then, in my view, we should, without a moment's hesitation, give notice of amendments (to the ABM Treaty) and deploy the system." Deploy it without waiting for the USSR's agreement to a revision of the treaty, because the "negotiations could take 12-15 years."

The period of 1 and 1/2 decades was not off the top of his head: According to U.S. estimates, it would take approximately that much time to switch from the current, strictly limited ABM to the projected, unlimited one. A period which the Americans see as the most unstable and dangerous. Therefore, the United States must play it safe and pretend that it is not breaking with the treaty and that, in turning everything upside down, it is only "modernizing" it and is maintaining "contact" with the Soviet Union before covering us with a space umbrella.

"Strength," the defense secretary asserts, "is the price of peace. ...The weapons we buy today will serve as the basis of U.S. military forces many years after the beginning of the 21st century." In other words, the hundreds of billions of dollars which the Reagan administration has already spent on the arms race and countless billions more which it is extorting from Congress must be put to good use; not spent on the idle talk which U.S. delegates content themselves with at international forums, talk about "lowering the levels of military confrontation by means of raising them."

Weapons are needed in order -- we quote the secretary's report -- to ensure that the United States and its allies have "guaranteed access to critically important raw material and energy resources in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East," as well as safeguarding "safe transit on critically important sea routes linking the free, industrially developed countries to those resources and to each other," "vital U.S. interests in Asia and the Pacific," and also "vital interests in Western Europe." As if all the land -- except that which belongs to socialism -- and all the seas were on Washington's inventory; as in the olden times of open colonial piracy.

In light of Washington's latest revelations one can hardly fail to agree with Secretary of State G. Shultz that "our countries (the United States and the Soviet Union) have irreconcilably different views of the world." And although the secretary of state then stipulates that "the realities of the nuclear age demand that we (Americans) maintain constructive relations with the Soviet Union wherever that is possible without sacrificing our principles," that stipulation does not make much difference. How could anyone, without sacrificing his own principles, go along with U.S. globalism? According to Shultz, in the seventies the United States "appeared for some time to turn aside from the role of strong leader and the situation in the world became more dangerous." The logic is extremely simple -- it is necessary to "restore the military might" of the United States, as the claim to superiority is officially expressed, and everything will be fine.

Then U.S. diplomacy will once again acquire weight, since "strength and diplomacy are not contradictory; they go hand in hand." That is also an integral part of the revision of "inherited concepts" which is designed to bring closer the realization of the cherished dream of establishing peace [mir] American-style.

Peace which does not discriminate against any country or any people, peace built on trust, not on violence, a world [mir] free of the threat of destruction, because no nuclear, chemical, or other systems for the mass extermination of life remain in that world -- that is the Soviet idea, embodied in a concrete, constructive plan which could and should be realized by the end of this century, so that the new century, the 21st, is truly a new age. This would be a peace not only for the Soviet Union or for the United States, but for the first time a world peace.

Washington counterposes peace and security for all to peace and security for itself. For the others, there is what U.S. imperialism does not particularly want or what, in its munificence, it hands out. An American-style world [mir] must be ruled by strength, mainly by strength and first and foremost, by strength. In the 21st century, this means not only strength at sea, in the air, and on land, but strength in space also. Not only nuclear or chemical strength, but also laser, infrared, X-ray, and genetic strength. Until the day when the blue-green planet earth passes through a high- or low-temperature hell to become a Mars, a Saturn, or a Jupiter. Apres nous le deluge -- that is the motto of a system incapable of finding a constructive response to the challenges of the age.

U.S. SILENCE ON ARMS PROPOSAL CRITICIZED

PM121453 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 86 p 3

[TASS correspondent A. Lyutyy "Washington Dispatch" for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: "Oh, This Russian Language...."]

[Text] A few days ago President Reagan delivered the traditional annual "State of the Union" address to Congress. Just as in the past, the address generated conflicting reactions among U.S. observers. There was, however, one fact which amazed most of them. Lou Cannon, veteran of the capital's press corps and THE WASHINGTON POST's White House correspondent, wrote: "The President did not utter a single word about the proposals put forward by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January and envisaging the gradual reduction of Soviet and U.S. nuclear arsenals right up to their complete liquidation by the end of this century." Proposals, which were affirmed with renewed force in the interview with L'HUMANITE.

L. Cannon's amazement is understandable. The proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, were -- in the words of well-known Senator W. Proxmire -- "the most radical and far-reaching arms limitation program in history," but official Washington maintains a bashful silence on them. The Soviet program generated a response in the hearts of millions of people who are tired of the danger of a nuclear war. And yet, the White House opts for silence. "One gets the impression that nothing has happened" -- these were the maliciously ironic remarks by New York State Congressman Thomas Downey in this connection.

Let us be, however, totally fair to the Washington administration. President Reagan did say, on the day when the Soviet leader's statement was published, that the United States was "very grateful" for the Soviet proposals and even perceived some "constructive elements" in them. But almost a month has gone by and the world is still waiting for a serious, detailed, and substantive response from the White House to our proposals.

By taking such a stance, according to prominent U.S. observer Mary McGrory, the U.S. Administration is "insulting by silence" the U.S. and other peoples who have seen a real hope for durable and long-lasting peace in the disarmament program presented by Moscow.

If you were to ask Larry Speakes, Edward Djerejian, and other White House press liaison officials to clarify the reason for the official silence, they would begin a leisurely explanation to the effect that not everything is done in such a hurry and that the elaboration of a comprehensive reaction demands time and "supplementary details" which the Soviet Union has supposedly not yet supplied. These are the actual arguments that Larry Speakes has used on umpteen occasions at his daily briefings for journalists. He was undoubtedly helped a few days ago by the magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, which claimed without any embarrassment that... "difficulties in translating" the Soviet proposals from Russian into English were one of the reasons for the delay in the U.S. reply.

Some people will, of course, believe these excuses, which are not too convincing. By no means all people, though. THE WASHINGTON POST wrote a few days ago that, in actual fact, the administration found itself simply "paralyzed" by the Soviet peace offensive and that "chaos reigns" inside the apparatus of arms control advisers.

Paul Warnke headed the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in the Carter Administration. When I got in touch with Paul Warnke and asked him to comment on what some newspapers called the "deadly silence" of the White House on the Soviet initiatives, he answered clearly and without hesitation: "I think everything is obvious. Your proposals were totally unexpected by the administration. It needs time to gather its wits and present an answer which would not just sound like an excuse. This is a complex matter, bearing in mind the deep-seated contradictions which are tearing the incumbent administration apart."

Let us make one thing clear at once: These contradictions are not of a fundamental nature. There is a group of officials who are implacably against any agreements with the Soviet Union in any arms limitation spheres. There are also others who believe that certain compromises in spheres where the interests of the two sides could share points of contact could be useful and necessary for the country. It is difficult to say which of the two viewpoints will gain the upper hand and whether common sense will triumph altogether. The forces of those who are in favor of whipping up the arms race at an even more insane pace are quite powerful. It is sufficient to glance at the draft Pentagon budget for fiscal 1987 which has just been submitted to Congress. It stands at almost one-third of a trillion dollars. No matter how thoroughly you examine this document, you will not find the slightest hint of even a flash of common sense. Everything is subordinated to the slogan "On with the arms buildup!" Primarily, in strategic and offensive arms. This is in addition to the almost double appropriations for work on the "star wars" program. Yet, President Reagan is still trying to convince the world that the Strategic Defense Initiative is for exclusively defensive purposes. People do not build up offensive potentials in order to defend themselves.

It is hard to foresee whether the administration's champions of compromises with the Soviet side will withstand the pressure from the military-industrial complex, for which any easing of tension in Soviet-U.S. relations is like a red rag to a bull. President Dwight Eisenhower proved to have been a wise prophet when he warned Americans on 17 January 1961 about the "grave consequences" of the too powerful influence exerted by the U.S. military-industrial complex on the country's politics. "In the government sphere," he handed down to his compatriots, "we must guard against the military-industrial complex gaining an unjustifiably powerful influence." Is today's President thinking over his predecessor's words?

The United States is now discussing the Soviet proposals with its allies. There are rumors in Washington that opportunities do exist for certain moves in the sphere of reducing the numbers of medium-range missiles in Europe.

Well, let us be patient and wait and see how the administration will respond to the Soviet disarmament program. The White House has no right to "insult with silence" the peoples in the world, who expect from responsible governments not expressions of "gratitude," but specific deeds along the path of averting the threat of nuclear annihilation that is now hanging over all of us.

U.S. ATTITUDES ON SOVIET MORATORIUM EXAMINED

PM271715 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Jan 86 p 3

[International observer G. Dadyants article: "Why We Extended the Moratorium"]

[Text] Will mankind be freed from the threat of nuclear annihilation hanging over it?

Millions of people both in our country and abroad are now asking themselves this question. They welcome the Soviet Union's resolute new actions in defense of peace and the improvement of the entire international situation and see in every line of M.S. Gorbachev's statement an all-embracing program of struggle against nuclear weapons. This statement cannot be dismissed, as in the past, or declared "communist propaganda." Even Washington cannot make up its mind to do that.

President Reagan, commenting on M.S. Gorbachev's statement, said in effect that the world could be freed from nuclear weapons even earlier than the year 2000 -- the date proposed by the Soviet Union. What is the snag, then? The whole problem is that fine words in favor of peace and disarmament are rarely combined with practical deeds in the U.S. capital.

Take, for example, such an acute question as the ending of nuclear tests. Clearly, it is a key element in the whole package of Soviet proposals. After all, it is these very tests which are today directly aimed at whipping up the nuclear arms race, since it is during them that new and increasingly destructive and sophisticated systems for the mass annihilation of people are developed and commissioned. The question is, how can we talk about the destruction of nuclear weapons, if they continue to be improved and consequently, stockpiled even further?

The question today is this: If people really want to take practical steps to curtail the nuclear arms race, further explosions must be halted. The ending of nuclear tests would mark the beginning of the process of allowing nuclear arsenals to become objectively obsolete and ultimately, to disappear.

The moratorium on nuclear explosions announced by the Soviet Union last summer was a bold political move. It was bold primarily because the United States carried out a series of new nuclear tests that year and, at first glance, it would have been logical to respond to them with our own tests. But in politics boldness is not only displayed in responding to an action with a counteraction. The stakes are very high now and the measure of responsibility resting on the Soviet Union and United States, in particular, is tremendous. We wanted to set the United States and the other Western powers an example of goodwill and a new approach to this most acute international problem.

Unfortunately, the U.S. side has not responded reciprocally to the Soviet Union.

After the announcement of the Soviet moratorium the United States continued to conduct more and more new nuclear explosions. The latest, carried out on the eve of the New Year, was directly designed to help in the implementation of the "star wars" program.

What position should the Soviet Union take under these conditions? If you follow the same old logic -- the logic of confrontation, then we should have resumed nuclear explosions from 1 January 1986, when the term of the unilateral moratorium imposed in August expired. "But the whole point is," M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his statement, "that it is precisely this so-called logic that must be resolutely broken."

Today it is not only questions of war and peace which depend on the resolution of questions connected with the nuclear disarmament program -- the future of human civilization, the life and death of whole continents and peoples are at stake. In both the Soviet Union and the United States scientists have come to the conclusion that mankind cannot survive a nuclear war. That is not a horror story, it is the horrifying reality.

The dramatic nature of the situation is exacerbated by the fact that in itself the process of military rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States could lead to a loss of control over the development of events. In the conditions of modern technology, nuclear weapons are capable of commencing operation by themselves, being subordinate not to human intelligence, but to an elementary computer error.

In deciding to extend the moratorium the Soviet Union was giving practical support to the movement for a general and complete end to nuclear tests, which is growing throughout the world. Today this movement has become a real force and a mighty support for the socialist countries' peace-loving policy.

To sum up, the purpose of the Soviet step is simple: to give the U.S. Government extra time to think and the opportunity to weigh not only our proposals on ending nuclear explosions, but the whole package of Soviet proposals concerning the elimination of nuclear weapons, of which the ending of tests is an important component.

Let us recall that at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva there was talk of restraint in the military sphere. Well, the extension of the moratorium is, if you like, a demonstration of restraint.

All the international reactions to the Soviet Union's extension of the moratorium indicate that we were not mistaken in our political and strategic analysis of the situation. The Soviet step was correctly understood by world public opinion. Swedish Prime Minister O. Palme, for instance, called the Soviet Union's decision "exceptionally important, since the ending of nuclear tests retards the further improvement of nuclear weapons," and expressed the hope that at the next Soviet-U.S. summit meeting it will be possible to to reach agreement on a total ban on any tests. The London TIMES sees the USSR's initiative in connection with extending the moratorium as "a new goodwill step by Moscow."

At the same time the foreign press notes with alarm that the United States, which has hitherto rejected all appeals to join in the moratorium, has still not changed its position. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger stated frankly that the moratorium proposal "is unacceptable to the U.S. side."

C. Weinberger asserts to back up his position, that the United States has supposedly carried out fewer nuclear explosions than the Soviet Union at this stage. This argument, to Mr Weinberger's discomfiture, does not stand up to criticism. Here are some figures from the Stockholm Peace Research Institute -- a completely neutral organization.

According to this institute's information, by the beginning of 1985 the United States had carried out 772 nuclear explosions and the USSR 556. During the Soviet moratorium the discrepancy in favor of the United States increased still further.

Some people say that it is impossible to establish a moratorium on nuclear explosions because they are difficult to monitor. That "argument," like the previous one, is also off beam. First, virtually every explosion can be monitored by the national means possessed by each side. Second, international monitoring can be established. The Soviet Union agrees to that, to the point of on-site inspections.

What, then, is preventing the moratorium from becoming not just a unilateral, but a bilateral and then, a multilateral act? Perhaps the U.S. NATO allies do not want a moratorium? But the Soviet Union is ready to resume immediately, this very month, the tripartite talks (between the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain) on a complete and general halt to nuclear weapons tests. We are also ready to begin without delay multilateral talks on a test ban within the framework of the Geneva Disarmament Conference. All the nuclear powers could take part in it.

It would appear that the sole reason preventing the United States now, as in the past, from joining the Soviet moratorium and subsequently going further -- toward a general halt to nuclear tests -- is pressure on the administration from the military-industrial complex, which has an interest in producing new kinds of nuclear armaments and consequently, in "trying them out" ["oprobyvaniye"]. "The explanation," THE BOSTON GLOBE writes, "is that the administration wants to develop [razrabotat] new kinds of nuclear armaments, and that requires nuclear tests." Despite President Reagan's assurances in Geneva, another obstacle is clearly the dreams of certain U.S. military and political circles about gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union, dreams which are as dangerous as they are futile.

The USSR has done everything possible to create favorable conditions for an end to nuclear tests and thereby, to give mankind the key to the door of the future -- a world without nuclear weapons. But it must be taken into account that wecannot go on endlessly displaying unilateral restraint. M.S. Gorbachev gave a reminder of this once again in his recent messages to the leaders of six nonaligned countries.

The United States still has time to follow the Soviet Union's example and give a positive response to the peaceful Soviet initiatives.

STRATEGIC ARMS GROUP MEETS IN GENEVA 12 FEB

LD121737 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 12 TASS -- A meeting of the strategic arms group has been held here today within the framework of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms.

MEDIUM-RANGE NUCLEAR ARMS GROUP MEETS IN GENEVA

LD131218 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 13 TASS -- The group on medium-range nuclear arms had a meeting today in the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

CEMA BODY DISCUSSES NUCLEAR POWER EQUIPMENT

PM041127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Commission Sitting"]

[Text] Budapest, 30 Jan -- The 13th sitting of the intergovernmental commission for coordinating cooperation among CEMA countries and the SFRY in producing equipment for nuclear power stations has been held here. Representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR, the CSSR, and the SFRY took part in it.

The sitting examined a broad range of questions connected with further developing cooperation among CEMA countries and the SFRY in the sphere of nuclear power machine building and generation. Particular attention was paid to tasks stemming from the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress in CEMA Countries Through the Year 2000, adopted by the CEMA session, and specific measures to implement them were outlined.

There was an examination of the fulfillment by countries participating in the conference of their obligations to produce and supply equipment for nuclear power stations, and decisions were taken aimed at ensuring the supply of the equipment this year.

Measures for specialization and cooperation in producing equipment for nuclear and thermal power stations were determined in connection with the preparation of a draft program for building these installations in CEMA countries in the period through the year 2000.

STUDY OF BLOC INTRAPARTY DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHED

PM031448 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Published"]

[Text] The study "Some Aspects of the Intraparty Development of Communists and Workers Parties in Socialist Countries at the Contemporary Stage" [Nekotoryye Voprosy Vnutripartiynogo Razvitiya Kommunisticheskikh I Rabochikh Partiy Sotsialisticheskikh Stran na Sovremennom Etape] has been published. It analyzes the most important aspects of intraparty life in communist and workers parties -- the growth and regulation of party ranks, the development of intraparty relations and organizational structure on the basis of democratic centralism, the improvement of intraparty control, the strengthening of the unity of party ranks, and questions concerning the Marxist-Leninist education of communists.

The book is published by the Political Literature Publishing House.

'TOP PRIORITY' ON 'SPLITTING' OF U.S., EUROPE

LD101619 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 10 Feb 86

["Top Priority" roundtable discussion presented by Vladimir Posner, with Dr Radomir Bogdanov, deputy director of the United States and Canada Institute; and Dr Sergey Plekhanov, of the United States and Canada Institute]

[Text] [Posner] Hello everybody and welcome to Top Priority. On the panel with me today: Dr Radomir Bogdanov, Dr Sergey Plekhanov, both of the prestigious USA and Canada Studies Institute. Your host is Vladimir Posner. Today we'd like to look at an issue that is being discussed a lot in Europe and that is whether or not, and some people say definitely yes, the Soviet proposals as formulated in the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev are aimed at splitting Europe and the United States, making them part company as it were; whether this whole idea of phasing out nuclear weapons has many insidious sides to it, one of which is, again, making Europe and the United States butt heads and part company. Radomir?

[Bogdanov] When I hear all that, and you hear all that from different quarters you know, and people are very noisy about that, I have a very strange feeling, you know, that I would like to put it the other way around. People cry about us trying to divide USA and Western Europe. They mean something very different, you know, they are just trying to divide us from Western Europe, you know [laughter in background] and please, don't smile, don't smile, I mean it because there is very strange feelings now in America. It's a kind of a fear that there is some rapprochement, there is some, you know, easing of tension on European Continent. Mind you, I use the definition of European Continent because, you know, geography, you cannot try to talk just like that, and geography is very clearly stating that we, the Soviet Union and Western Europe, not only Western, I would put it like that rather, Europe as a whole, they are on the same continent. They are living very close to each other. At the same time you have a problem with the USA which is the distance, again geographical problems, something like 10, even more, 12,000 kilometers dividing us from USA. Isn't it natural that we are worried about our relations with Western Europe? For instance, isn't it unnatural that USA is worrying about their relations with Mexico, with Canada, with some other countries laying very nearby to the borders of the USA and we don't object it. No, we understand the reality, number one. Number two: Well, if I say that I am very happy that America is in Europe with their troops, with their bases, with their forward-based systems, you would not believe me.

[Posner] No, I would not. I would not, no.

[Bogdanov] I am not, of course, I am not happy and I would prefer America to stay out. But, I am political animal and [this] means first of all I am a realist, you know. That happened so that after the Second World War, that's by the way, one of the reality, one of the result of the Second World War, that the American troops stay in Europe and we take it as a fact of life. Then, as very practical people, we understand that the whole history of relations between Western Europe and USA is such that you want it, you like it or dislike it, you cannot divide them; you cannot divide, you cannot throw USA out of Western Europe just because you don't like it. You cannot do that because they're part of the same alliance, military alliance, NATO alliance. But, what is more important, they have common history, they have common cultural ties, they have many, many things in common. They are very different also, but they have more in common with USA than with us, and we admit that. So, when we are accused that we are trying, I'm always putting question what for? What for?

[Posner] Don't you think that every time there seems to be a movement toward an easing of tension, towards an improvement of relations, towards some kind of agreement in the area of arms control or arms reduction -- Geneva was one example of that kind of a spirit -- of a movement, but there have been times before. Always you get this sudden -- it's not sudden really, but the same thing crops up -- the statement that the Soviet Union is trying to divide United States and Europe. And this latest statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, where we clearly indicate how we would go about, with all the rest of the world, doing away with nuclear weapons, including those weapons that are now very much part of the European picture, the medium range missiles to begin with, then the tactical weapons and all the other nuclear weapons. We get this same reaction in Europe from some people; that this is an attempt, as it were, to make America and Europe enemies. Don't you think it's serving a certain purpose? It's kind of like, you know, I don't know if you've had this in your life before, but you sometimes think I've heard this before, I've heard this before, and you, don't you feel that this is? [as heard]

[Plekhanov] Yes. It's been going on for, I think 30 years, ever since the cold war began to melt in the mid-fifties the argument was used, and it's usually done in order to, in the first place, to scare the Europeans, saying well, you know, watch out! Watch out, the big bad Soviet Union is out to get you unless you have us Americans here protecting you frome the big bad Soviet Union. Well, and it's always forgotten that the Soviet Union was not in favor of this sort of military division of Europe. When NATO was formed in 1949 the Soviet Union proposed, in fact offered, to join NATO. The Soviet Union was very active.

[Bogdanov] I am sure our many American listeners will be amazed at what they have heard from you, that we have suggested to join NATO.

[Plekhanov] Ya.

[Bogdanov] That's a very interesting fact.

[Plekhanov] Ya. Another example: In 1952 the Soviet Government proposed that Germany be unified, be a single country, and it be neutral and demilitarized.

[Posner] This was when?

[Plekhanov] 1952. In 1955 we proposed a conference on European security and disarmament, [words indistinct] the start of the idea which then materialized into the Helsinki process and the Final Act, and so on, but it took us 20 years to have that idea realized. The Soviet Union is interested in a peaceful Europe. We are not interested in a Europe which is divided into two armed blocs, and in fact to anyone with any kind of reason it must really be absurd to see Europe where nobody can realistically think up of a scenario of war between East and West.

[Posner] Over what?

[Plekhanov] Over recarving of frontiers, over, I mean it's really difficult to find a realistic, plausible scenario for a war in Europe, and still, this is a continent where the greatest number of most dangerous weapons in the world are amassed, it's absurd. There must be something there that has different, different explanations.

[Posner] Dr Bogdanov, did you want to say something?

[Bogdanov] You know I sometimes, I have a feeling like asking my American friends over there just to imagine for a while that 300,000 Soviet soldiers are in Mexico and in Canada with all their weaponry, tanks, guns, and things like that, staying for 40 years, surrounding America like that. What would be their feeling about their own security? How they would look at their own security problem? So I just would like to bring in just a bit of our feelings about that to my American friends (?of mine). How did they feel on that, why they are so touchy on that problem though, (?as they told me) they are realistic about that. But we prefer, as Sergey put it, we prefer to dismantle both military blocs. We understand that for (?today) it's impossible, it's not feasible, you know, but what is feasible is must to reduce the level of military, you know, tension, of military, you know, confrontation in central Europe. That is very possible, but whenever we suggest it we always hear (?what Sergey said). We always, again a couple of arguments you know, have been produced just to convince people over there, no, you cannot deal with the Soviet Union, it's very dangerous, it's things like that. [as heard]

[All agree on this point]

[Bogdanov] And you know you have the same problem, you know, a kind of very new dimension of thinking is very much necessary, adjusted to the realities of the nuclear, nuclear cosmic era, and I call my listeners, you know, just to think it over very seriously. If you reject all the time just out of hand whatever the other side says, then it's a vicious circle, you cannot break it. You may produce excellent, you know (?the) excellent proposals, but you cannot break this vicious circle. So, I believe that, Vladimir, the problem we are discussing is of very great importance. I have no solution, I have no solution. Of course, what I mean I have no solution, I don't know how to convince our American listeners.

[Posner, interrupting] and European listeners.

[Bogdanov] And European listeners as well, that we are in this situation, this situation, and it's a high time to find out solutions, commonly acceptable solutions. I don't know. I have no recipes. Maybe you have, maybe you have, Sergey, that there is only one thing which is clear for me, the problem is there on the table. [as heard]

[Plekhanov] Well, I think that some kind of a solution, we may be groping towards some kind of a solution. For instance, in the last few weeks there have been positive signals from the Stockholm conference on security, on confidence building measures, and from Vienna talks where the conventional arms balance is discussed. Apparently, there are some changes for the better. Some ices are, sort of...

[Posner, interrupting] Melting?

[Plekhanov] Melting. Yes, that's the word, melting. But of course it does not, it only makes more necessary a new kind of approach to security and to the situation in Europe, security in Europe. The fact is that both Western Europe and Eastern Europe are part of the same continent and they cannot simply afford to continue thinking about their security, each side of (?them), in terms of one vis-a-vis the other, one against the other. It's just ridiculous and it's very dangerous and therefore, some new thinking is in order.

[Posner] Well, I'd like to invite our listeners both in Europe and the United States, if they feel that this is an interesting subject, the whole issue of the division or, shall we put it, the attempt -- put that in quotes -- of the Soviet Union to divide Western Europe and the United States; the issue of security, I would like to invite them to address their questions to us with their views on this subject because I feel very strongly and I believe that both of you share that feeling that this is a key issue that needs to be looked at very seriously. It is also an issue that touches on the whole question of trust. I believe Dr Bogdanov said that in reality the people who are talking about the Soviet attempt to divide, in reality are trying to divide Western Europe and the Soviet Union.

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Ya, Ya, I mean it. I mean it.

[Posner] ... To drive wedges into those relationships. So I repeat, I would like to invite our listeners to join in this conversation to share with us their views, their concerns, and I'm sure that we'd be delighted to discuss that. And on that note let me end this edition of "Top Priority." We'll be back a week from today at the same time.

TROYANOVSKIY MAKES STATEMENT AT UN ON ARMS RACE

LD130536 Moscow TASS in English 0528 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Statement by Soviet Ambassador to United Nations" -- TASS headline]

[Text] New York, February 13 TASS -- In the complicated international situation today it is vital for the states and peoples of all countries to take vigorous action to radically lessen tension and bridle the unrestrained arms race, Oleg Troyanovskiy, permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, told a new conference here.

This is why, he said, the most pressing needs of the times, those of preventing a nuclear war, making certain that all nuclear powers follow the Soviet lead and renounce first use of nuclear weapons, starting consistently to reduce nuclear-missile arsenals and ultimately eliminating them altogether, will continue to be in the focus of attention of the U.N. General Assembly, especially its First Committee which is concerned with political and security issues, including disarmament.

In this connection the Soviet representative pointed out the high appraisal given by international community to the January 15 statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, setting forth proposals aimed at doing away with nuclear weapons on this planet completely by the year 2000. Representatives of most states accredited at the United Nations Organization, Troyanovskiy said, see these latest major initiatives taken by the USSR as further proof of its readiness actually to remove the nuclear danger overhanging humanity.

In the United Nations world public opinion has also hailed another Soviet gesture of good will, namely the extension by the USSR of its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear blasts, and expects the U.S. Administration to join it, the Soviet representative said. If the moratorium became mutual, this would help progress towards an agreement on a general and complete prohibiton of nuclear test, he added, noting that the United Nations also has an important role to play in fulfilling this task.

UN DELEGATE ON 'UNSEEMLY' U.S. ROLE IN AFRICA

LD120715 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2230 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Excerpts] New York, 12 Feb (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Sergey Baybokov reports:

In the UN Security Council, continuing the discussion on the explosive situation in the south of the African Continent, sharp criticism is being heard of the unseemly role of the United States, which is supporting the RSA's aggressive course in relation to neighboring countries.

Twelve years have already passed since the General Assembly refused the apartheid regime the right to occupy a place in the UN among other peaceloving, civilized states, stated V.S. Safronchuk, USSR first deputy permanent representative at the UN.

The Soviet Union condemns the use of regional conflicts according to the concept of "new globalism" for the purpose of interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign states. The seat of tension in southern Africa must be eliminated by political means, under the conditions of a complete renunciation of the policy of state terrorism, the Soviet representative said. The unity of action of African and other nonaligned countries, all progressive states, is the guarantee of success in the struggle against racism and aggression in southern Africa. We must act decisivley and urgently, to force the Western powers to put an end to the policy of appeasement and encouragement of the racist aggressor.

LATE REPORT: SUKHIN CALLS SHCHARANSKIY 'RENEGADE'

LD131626 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] In view of the hullabaloo raised in the West over the criminal Shcharanskiy, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry Valeriy Sukhin has made the following statement to the press: I would not like to enter discussions about such renegades and national traitors as this person is. However, one cannot but pay attention to the fact who is fanning up this hullaballoo most. [as heard] Those who are mounting it deny the legitimate rights of a whole nation, the Palestinian people, to self determination. I am of course referring to Israel, said Valeriy Sukhin. Among them are also those who shelled from the guns of their battleships an independent and sovereign Arab nation, as the United States did in the case of Lebanon. The list could be continued, Sukhin, said, however, even this is enough to draw appropriate conclusions.

PRESS BRIEFING 'FIRMLY' CONDEMNS U.S. EXERCISES

LD131052 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1010 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 13 Feb (TASS) -- At a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists, which took place in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center, the new provocations by the United States with respect to Libya and the DPRK, were firmly condemned.

At midnight on 11 February [na dvenadtsatoye fevralya] the United States began new provocative military maneuvers off the shores of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, said Valeriy Sukhin, deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Department. According to reports, a powerful naval grouping is concentrated there, consisting of 2 dozen vessels of the 6th Fleet, led by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga. The strike aircraft carrier America has been ordered to redeploy to the Mediterranean. The Pentagon notified the International Civil Aviation Authority that from 12 to 15 February deck-based aircraft [palugnaya aviatsiya] of the U.S. Air Force would be carrying out "air operations" in the region under direct control of the traffic controller service of Tripoli airport.

The synchronous nature of the United States' military preparations and of those of its Near Eastern ally Israel draws attention, stressed Valeriy Sukhin. According to press reports, reconnaissance aircraft based on the Coral Sea and Saratoga aircraft carriers will provide Tel Aviv with data on Libyan antiaircraft defense and flights by Libyan aircraft.

On the other hand, at the same time as these maneuvers, the United States is also continuing the large-scale "Team Spirit-86" military maneuvers begun a few days ago in South Korea which are being conducted jointly with South Korean troops.

The position of the Soviet Union in relation to these big war games being organized by Washington in various parts of the world was set out in the corresponding TASS statements recently published (10 January and 8 February). Therefore today, once again confirming our solidarity with the peoples of the DPRK and Libya, said Valeriy Sukhin, we would like to stress that such actions by the U.S. Administration, which are seriously exacerbating the situation in various parts of the world, are in contradiction with the interests of a practical underpinning of the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva, and on the whole with the aspiration for a general improvement of the international situation, which was expressed by the U.S. President at the Geneva meeting.

It is hoped in the Soviet Union, stressed the representative of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that the United States and its partners will make a realistic assessment of the dangerous consequences of whipping up war psychosis, and will refrain from attempts to blackmail sovereign states by demonstrating their military might.

Further Report

LD131151 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 13 Feb (TASS) -- It is clear that it is easier to reach a settlement on any situations of conflict in international relations in conditions of a calm atmosphere. However, the huge armada of U.S. naval forces, which have already been in the Mediterranean for a long time now, is a factor which cannot facilitate the creation of a calm atmosphere in that region, said Valeriy Sukhin, deputy head of the Press Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, replying to questions from journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center today.

The very fact of the presence of a powerful naval grouping comprising about 40 (dva desyatka] ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet cannot fail to complicate the situation in the Mediterranean. Moreover, this armada is maneuvering, is carrying out certain operations, and who can be entrusted to ensure that its presence in the region will not be fraught with more serious consequences? Valeriy Sukhin stressed. This sort of situation makes solving all problems in the region, including the Cuprus problem, more difficult.

Through its actions the United States has more than once inflicted damage on the countries of the region. The support the White House is giving to Israel is another thing that is undermining the basis for an all-embracing settlement to the situation in the region. Such actions can be assessed as a manifestation of the concept of "neoglobalism" which is currently in fashion in the United States. They not only fail to help the international situation, but lead to an exacerbation of tension in various regions of the world.

The reforms being carried out by the racist regime in the Republic of South Africa (RSA), including those which were recently mentioned in parliament in Pretoria, Valeriy Sukhin said, should be viewed in the overall context of the situation in southern Africa and in the RSA. The abolition of passes, the so-called common citizenship for the people of the homelands, and the setting up of consultative councils for the black population -- all these are enforced reforms that do not keep pace with the development of events in the country. It is a question not of liquidating the shameful system of apartheid, which is condemned by the world community, but merely of a partial, cosmetic modernization of this shameful system, which fundamentally remains. The black population in the RSA does not participate in the running of the country. Until it does, there cannot be any question of a real dismantling of apartheid.

Touching upon the war between Iran and Iraq, Valeriy Sukhin stressed the USSR's unchanging position on this question: This war is not only a bloody tragedy and a senseless event, but it eats away material resources that could be used to strengthen the economies of these countries and their peaceful evolution. The Soviet Union urges an end to this war as quickly as possible.

Replying to a question by a Japanese journalist, the representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry stated that the USSR's position in connection with the so-called "territorial question" mentioned in statements by certain officials and organs of the Japanese press, has not changed. The existing borders between our two states are an historical fact. The Soviet Union proceeds from the principle of the inviolability of borders.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON U.S. EXERCISES OFF LIBYA

Maneuvers Under Way

LD121518 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The United States has launched another major naval and air exercise off Libyan shores. Involved in the war games are more than 20 ships, including two aircraft carriers. A Washington spokesman has said (?the deck) aircraft are to confirm the United States' right to be in the airspace over the region. It's been also announced in Washington that aircraft of the 6th Fleet will be carrying out air operations in the zone under the air traffic control service at the airport of the Libyan capital Tripoli, which will jeopardize passenger flights.

Several hours before the beginning of the exercise, the United States cancelled all flights by American airliners to Libya. This is one of the so-called economic sanctions against that country, Washington announced on the seventh of last month.

Another military exercise is going on in the Mediterranean near the Italian island of Sardinia. Taking part are a number of NATO countries. Washington has been trying to involve its allies in its anti-Libyan campaign. Israel has fully supported that campaign, and been building up tension itself. Reports from Damascus say that an Israeli warship has opened fire on a Turkish merchant ship in international waters near the Gaza strip. The Israelis seized the ship and illegally inspected it. The captain of the Turkish ship was killed. An Israeli military spokesman cynically declared that actions by the Turkish sailors had seemed suspicious.

The Libyan Government, in a message to the United Nations, has said that the exercises jeopardized peace and security in the Mediterranean. Libya has suggested convening a conference of the Mediterranean countries to turn the region into a zone free of foreign fleets and bases.

The Algerian magazine REVOLUTION AFRICAINE has said that numerous military exercises by the United States in the Mediterranean are aimed not only at testing the readiness of its interventionist forces, but as intimidating countries that refuse to bow to Western diktat.

U.S. 'State Terrorism' Seen

LD122049 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; A. Serikov report on U.S. military maneuvers off the Libyan coast]

[Text] State terrorism — there is no other name for the new attempt by the United States to intimidate the people of Libya by saber rattling off its coast. Close to the shore of this sovereign country a naval group has appeared, led by the notorious carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga, which had the Libyan coast in their sights just a few days ago.

The Libyan Government, condemning the new U.S. provocation, has come forward with an initiative on turning the Mediterranean into a zone free of foreign navies and air bases — a sensible peace initiative offered in the spirit of the times.

The U.S. Administration, however, has just reasserted the United States' right to illegal action close to foreign shores. At a press conference in the White House, the head of the White House stated that the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean must maintain its readiness. Readiness for what? The new escalation of tension in the Mediterranean is causing serious concern throughout the world.

REAGAN CITED ON IMPORTANCE OF PHILIPPINE BASES

LD122310 Moscow TASS in English 2250 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan of the United States, touching upon the present U.S.-Philippine relations, has stated at a press conference here: "I don't know of any that's more important than the bases on the Philippines".

The Pentagon has about twenty military facilities, among them the Clark Field and Subic Bay bases, the biggest U.S. bases outside the USA, in the Philippines. The two bases are assigned an important role in Washington's military-strategic plans. The members of the official delegation of U.S. "observers", who had visited Manila, acquainted Ronald Reagan on Tuesday with their findings concerning the elections that have taken place in the Philippines. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper, they urged the U.S. President to use political and diplomatic levers to bring the situation towards a trustworthy outcome.

An intention of the White House to continue to interfere in the internal affairs of the sovereign state is also evidenced by Ronald Reagan's decision to send to Manila his personal envoy Philip Habib who, as THE WASHINGTON POST points out, has been instructed to evaluate the wishes and needs of the Philippine people.

Meanwhile, according to an ASSOCIATED PRESS report, a mass anti-American demonstration has taken place in Manila, with the demonstrators protesting against U.S. interference in the Republic's internal affairs.

U.S. 'FORWARD-BASED' STRATEGY THREATENS PEACE

LD121603 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Speaking at one time in San Francisco, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said that the United States can no longer frivolously declare that it has no stake in one or another strategic region of the world. He said the United States should be present wherever its presence is prompted by its national security, even if it is 1,000 miles away from the United States. These revelations by Weinberger are recalled again now that the United States mounts new provocative manoeuvres off the shores of sovereign Libya in a bid to foster, as the Algerian journal REVOLUTION AFRICAINE points out with good reason, its military presence in the region.

According to the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, over the period from 1945 to 1982, with the exception of only 1955, 1956 and 1959, U.S. troops, aircraft and ships annually intervened in one or another part of the world -- in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia or Latin America. Today, this U.S. "power pressure" all along the line has been escalated into an unprecedented scope. It is enough to recall such facts as the launching by Washington of the "undeclared wars" on Afghanistan and Nicaraguan, the U.S. piratic action in Lebanon and the occupation of Grenada. Eager to assert its dominant role in all "vital" parts of the world, Washington relies on the so-called "forward-based system", i.e. a ramified network of military bases which are the seats and strong points of aggression.

At present, the United States has over 1,500 military bases and facilities in the territories of over 30 states; more than half a million officers and men are stationed at them. Most of the U.S. military bases are located in immediate proximity to the borders of the U.S.S.R. and other socialist countries. The Federal Republic of Germany, whose territory is viewed by the Pentagon as a spring-board for launching a war against the Warsaw Treaty member countries, is the site of over 200 large-scale military installations. The United States deployed close to 350 military facilities in the Far East, the region in which the second largest overseas grouping of the U.S. Armed Forces is stationed close to the Soviet Union's borders.

Having declared the Near and Middle East a zone of its "vital interests", the United States set up a network of its military bases in that region. Americans use about 25 military facilities on the African Continent and on the islands adjacent to it.

The United States makes use of the military bases in the territories of other states to bring direct pressure to bear on those countries, keep them in the channel of the U.S. policy, intimidate by the threat of force progressive regimes and give backing to reactionary regimes, and militarily suppress the national liberation movements. Washington's "base strategy" forcefully demonstrates whence the threat to peace and international security emanates in reality.

REAGAN PRESS CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

LD121810 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan has held a press conference, devoting main attention to the internal political situation in the United States.

Journalists who asked questions directed their criticism at the draft federal budget for the 1987 financial year, which envisages a further record-high increase in military appropriations and sharp cuts in social expenditures which affect the vital interests of millions of Americans. In particular, Reagan's announcement that it is planned again to cut down domestic programs by five per cent has given rise to criticism. "A lot of people don't agree with you," stated one of the journalists. "You are calling for cuts in education, in school lunches, other nutrition programs. You are calling for cuts in student aid."

THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper points out today that the draft budget envisages a cut in appropriations for 40 federal programs, which will lead to their curtailment or to complete elimination. At the same time provision is made for an eight per cent adjusted-for-inflation increase in military spending.

The attention of the head of the administration was also drawn to the fact that "black college enrollment is way down. A lot of middle class families with many children find it much harder to send their children to college". The President preferred to pass over in silence this impartial truth about the deterioration of the socio-economic position of Americans. Instead, he attacked the social programs themselves as well as millions of those Americans who have to apply for government aid, by describing them almost as loafers.

Such an acute problem as discrimination against the blacks, and active attempts by the present administration to sabotage efforts aimed at solving that problem were touched upon at the press conference. It was recalled that the President in the 1960s had opposed all civil rights legislation. Then he was asked this question: "Why is your administration so bent on wiping out the flexible hiring goals for blacks, minorities, and women?" The head of the White House had to admit that present-day America is far from racial equality and harmony. At the same time he again criticized the earlier taken measures aimed at somewhat limiting racial discrimination.

A number of questions dealt with international problems. When answering them, the President maintained that he did not know the nature of the operations that had been conducted in direct proximity to Libyan shores. At the same time he virtually confirmed that he had personally endorsed the most provocative aspect of those operations: Planned calls by warships and entry of U.S. aircraft into the waters and air space which Libya regards as its territory. "I gave the go-ahead on that", Reagan said.

The President specially emphasized the importance of keeping the Subic Bay and Clark Field military bases -- the biggest U.S. bases outside U.S. territory -- in the Philippines. "One cannot minimize the importance of those bases, not only to us, but to the Western world", he said. "I don't know of any that's more important than the bases on the Philippines".

IZVESTIYA VIEWS U.S. 'ENLIGHTENED CONSERVATISM'

PM061703 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Mikheyev "International Notes": "'Enlightened Conservatism'"]

[Text] Geneva was a milestone in the development of the international situation in the eighties. The Soviet-American accords at the summit meeting were perceived as the first step on the road to stability and the improvement of the political and psychological climate in bilateral and international relations. Moscow has responded with a package of constructive peace initiatives. But what signals are emanating from Washington?

The 13th annual conference of the National Conservative Committee for Political Action was held there recently. Delegates from more than 50 organizations assembled in the hall -- organizations such as the Heritage Foundation, High Frontier, and the American Security Council, which constitute the backbone of the multifaceted coalition of right-wing forces. The head of the White House was invited to speak and was introduced to the audience as the "leader of the U.S. right-wing movement." As President Reagan's speech confirmed, this form of address was highly symbolic.

"All the old prohibitions and prejudices of liberalism have collapsed and been practically swept away," R. Reagan said, "and their place is being taken by a healthy and enlightened conservatism." So that there should be no doubt as to what should be meant by this, expressions such as "rebuff to communist dictatorship" resounded from the platform; the times when the United States experienced "insurmountable fear of communism" were proclaimed anathema; abuse was hurled at the "post-Vietnam syndrome" which, it turns out, has "paralyzed American foreign policy;" and at the same time the inference was drawn (how Washington would lite it to be true) that "in Europe and Asia... socialism is dying out."

Sadly familiar motifs. The advocates of "enlightened conversatism" intend to impose the "benefits of freedom," as they see it, on all the world's peoples. "From Afghanistan and Nicaragua to Poland and Angola," as stated in the speech. The concept of "new globalism" is increasingly vigorously coming to the forefront in Washington. This concept proposes, as A. Lewis writes in THE NEW YORK TIMES, that "the United States must intervene in wars taking place in Third World countries and everywhere that there is any possibility at all of combating Soviet influence." The echo of this concept could be heard in the speech of the President, who spoke of an administration which would "evaluate Soviet expansionism realistically and be ready to rebuff it."

The President spoke in complimentary terms of the so-called "freedom fighters" ranked among whom were Nicaraguan "contras" and Afghan dushmans, whose representative arrived in the American capital on guest tickets. Special kindness was shown to J. Savimbi, leader of the anti-Angolan gangs of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, before whom the "red carpet" was rolled out everywhere in Washington during his visit, which coincided with the conference. These puppets, who obey the will of those who pay for their secret wars, are increasingly coming to the fore in implementing the "neoglobalism" doctrine in practice.

President Reagan's speech was preceded by no less bellicose speeches. Republican Senators M. Wallop and D. Quayle; General D. Graham, retired, former military adviser to R. Reagan in 1976 and 1980; and B. (Veynrod), head of the Heritage Foundation's foreign policy study program praised to the skies the administration's steep turn toward "superarmament" plans. They entreated high-ranking dignitaries to slide not an iota from the beaten militarist track. The impression is formed that the apostles of the "conservative wave" in the United States either fear the winds of change will blow in international affairs, or believe that the present administration has not entirely carried out their instructions.

It is noteworthy that President Reagan, as though justifying himself to like-minded people, maintained that his admiration does not depart from a "truly conservative" course. And, to prove it, he cited the fact that in 1985 it put through Congress all the most important programs drawn up in the various "think tanks" of American right-wingers. He also turned on those who advocate cutting appropriations for the Pentagon. He linked this theme with the plans to create [sozdaniye] new arms systems, including space strike arms, with the continuation of the arms race in all directions, and also with the administration's intention to engage still more actively in fulfilling police functions in the international arena.

After Geneva millions of people in the world hope that Washington would respond positively to the opportunity which has been opened up -- thanks to the Soviet peace initiatives -- to advance the cause of disarmament and detente. They awaited and still await a display of U.S. readiness to pursue a balanced and restrained policy in the planet's "hot spots," readiness to renounce diktat and interference in the affairs of sovereign states. But in reply they heard this: "Military spending and aid to freedom fighters could suddenly prove to be this year's most important problems."

LITTLE ENTHUSIASM SEEN FOR U.S. TRADE CURBS

PM121601 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Kharlanov dispatch: "Without Great Enthusiasm"]

[Text] Brussels, 10 Feb -- J. Whitehead, assistant U.S. secretary of state, thought it not too much of an effort to cross the ocean to address a session of a North Atlantic Assembly subcommittee which met in the Belgian capital. The agenda of this meeting consisted of one item -- how to restrict even further the sales of up-to-date goods and advanced technology to socialist countries.

In a lengthy speech Whitehead tried to frighten NATO parliamentarians with the "threat from the East" and appealed to the U.S. allies to reduce the volume of their trade with the USSR and the other socialist countries. He reiterated that sales of any article containing components made in the United States or manufactured under U.S. license must be authorized by the U.S. authorities.

Whitehead insisted that the lists of banned articles compiled by the notorious Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls must be extended. However, even the communique compiled by the NATO parliamentarians for the press notes that West European countries and Canada received the U.S. demands "without great enthusiasm."

ACADEMICIAN CHAZOV INTERVIEWED ON U.S. TV LINKUP

PM121225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Academician Ye. I. Chazov by Melor Sturua: "Building Bridges From Both Banks" -- date, place of interview not stated; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The other day Soviet television screened a 2-hour debate between leading USSR and U.S. cardiologists on "killer number one," as cardiovascular disease is commonly called. The debate took the form of a TV bridge. One end was "propped up" by Moscow, the other by Bethesda, a suburb of Washington, where the National Institute of Health is located. On the American side, those taking part in the debate included Professor Michael De Bakey, a heart transplantation pioneer, Doctor Antonio Gotto, ex-president of the American Heart Association, and other equally eminent specialists. Unfortunately, only the Soviet audience was able to see this interesting program. The Americans did not see it. Why? That was the question our correspondent Melor Sturua put to Academician Ye. I. Chazov.

"The debate took place at a high scientific and professional level," Ye. I. Chazov said. "Methods of combating atherosclerosis, ischemic disease, and myocardial infarction were discussed; the successes achieved in the treatment of these terrible diseases were noted. The common opinion was that the conversation was an important contribution to medical science. There was a positive response in the American press too, in particular in THE NEW YORK TIMES and LOS ANGELES TIMES.

"I would like to note another aspect of the TV linkup. It was, so to speak, warmed by the 'spirit of Geneva.' The help we were given by the USIA and the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting was a concrete manifestation of Soviet-American cooperation in one of the most humanitarian spheres of human activity. The role of space (in this case, space communications) in our initiative is also symbolic. Here, it clearly served a good end.

"In the light of the above, it is surprising that the 'cardiological TV linkup' was not shown in the United States. In an attempt to explain this 'blackout,' certain official U.S. spokesmen stated that the American side 'did not like' some of the Soviet participants in the TV linkup. My letter to the U.S. ambassadsor in the Soviet Union failed to completely clear up this situation. Another accusation followed, to the effect that we try to use scientific discussions for 'propaganda purposes.' But since when has the desire to maintain good relations with our American colleagues, the desire to cooperate with them in the field of battle agaist against cardiac disease, been 'propaganda'? In the words of Doctor (Elliot Kordi), chairman of the USIA medical advisers' committee and chief cardiologist at a Los Angeles hospital, 'There was nothing political about our debate!'

"As far as I know, this opinion of Doctor (Kordi's) is shared by the vast majority of his American collegues. They believe -- and I am in full agreement with them -- that events like our TV linkup are a valuable contribution to Soviet-American scientific cooperation and to the noble struggle for people's health. For my part, I would like to stress that a good deal has been done in this sphere since 1972. Here are just a few illustrations: There have been 25 joint symposiums, 70 joint articles have been published in specialized international journals, and 650 cardiologists have taken part in scientific exchanges. Even now, Soviet physicians are working at U.S. cardiological centers and Americans at Soviet cardiological centers.

"Against the background of this cooperation, the position of those who are trying to put spokes in the wheels of our joint activity looks particularly unseemly. But I am profoundly convinced that ultimately reason will prevail here too. By pooling our efforts, we Soviet and American cardiologists can do much for people. As for TV bridges, like ordinary bridges, they should be built from both banks."

U.S. 'DELAYED' EXTRADITION OF ARTUKOVIC TO SFRY

LD121357 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] San Francisco February 12 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Yuriy Algunov.

The Los Angeles Federal Court of Appeals has refused to prevent the deportation of Nazi criminal Andrija Artukovic to Yugoslavia. The decision was taken after the postponement order for his deportation from the United States, given earlier, expired.

Twice in 1985 the Los Angeles federal judge Volney Brown ruled that the Hitlerite henchman be handed over to the Yugoslav people against whom Artukovic committed heinous crimes during the Second World War. Under the pressure of irrefutable evidence the American court recognized the guilt of the Nazi butcher in exterminating people in Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia.

Artukovic has been living in the United States since 1951. Way back at that time the Yugoslav Government demanded the immediate extradition of the "Croatian Himmler," as the sadist was called for his particular brutality, to face trial. Only eight years after that, Washington responded to the legitimate demand of the Yugoslav side. Flatly refusing to extradite him, the Americans referred to the "political character" of the charges levelled against Artukovic.

The documents provided by Yugoslavia, enumerated 1,239 instances when civilians were destroyed on direct orders from Artukovic who served as "interior minister" in the puppet government of traitor Pavelic.

Bowing to pressure of the American and world public, the U.S. authorities launched several years ago an inquiry into the case of Artukovic and several other Nazi henchmen. Justice seemed to be triumphing. The court ultimately passed a verdict of guilty. But the execution of the sentence was constantly delayed.

The tacit "neutrality" of the U.S. authorities with regard to Artukovic is due to the fact that the Nazi criminal for long worked for the Central Intelligence Agency as an "expert on East Eruopean countries" and enjoyed support of influential American politicians.

RENMIN RIBAO CRITICISM OF 'TEAM SPIRIT' CITED

LD111835 Moscow TASS in English 1722 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Beijing February 11 TASS -- "Military Exercises That Worsen the Atmosphere", under this heading today's RENMIN RIBAO published a commentary in connection with "Team Spirit-86" exercises that started on Monday. "There is no doubt that the U.S.-South Korean exercises will worsen the atmosphere in the dialogue between the North and the South of Korea, the atmosphere that appeared to have improved".

The DPRK Government had earlier announced its decision to stop as of February 1 this year the holding of large military manoeuvres in the northern part of the country and of any military exercises in the period of North-South dialogue. The U.S. and South Korean authorities turned a deaf ear to the proposal of the DPRK to take similar actions, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO writes.

Certain progress achieved at the bilateral talks between the North and South of Korea last year set the beginning to the easing tension on the Korean peninsula, consolidated the hopes of the Korean people for the independent peaceful unification of the motherland. This is why these talks receive the support of the entire Korean people and were welcomed by all Asian states, the commentary says.

The decision to stop military exercises adopted by the DPRK Government early this year is an important step toward independent peaceful unification of the country. A different stand has been assumed by the U.S. and South Korean authorities whose actions give the lie to their numerous assurances of the striving to settle the existing differences. "This duplicity and the disparity between words and deeds do nothing to promote the North-South dialogue. Quite the contrary, they might only increase mutual distrust and confrontation. Quite naturally this is condemned and opposed by unbiased international public", the Chinese newspaper writes on conclusion.

LAO SHE DEATH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

OW130215 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Lao She was a bosom friend of the Soviet Union. He talked quite progressively about Russian and Soviet literature. His works are familiar to Soviet readers. Numerous copies of Lao She's works have been printed in our country again and again.

The above was pointed out by Soviet sinologist Professor (Shimanov), doctor of literature, who made a report on the creative works of this outstanding Chinese prose writer and playwright at an evening party held at the House of Friendship with the Chinese people in Moscow on 12 February. The evening party was sponsored by the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Lao She's death.

Soviet sinologists, activists of Soviet-Chinese friendship, and representatives of the people of Moscow attended the evening party. Li Zewang, ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Soviet Union, his wife, and other personnel of the Chinese Embassy were present as guests.

Following the report, a Chinese feature film "Ricksha Boy" based on Lao She's novel of the same title, was shown.

REPORTAGE ON GORBACHEV MESSAGE TO JAPANESE MAYORS

Text of Contents

LD121237 Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- Follows the full text of Mikhail Gorbachev's message:

"To Mr. Hitoshi Motoshima, mayor of Nagasaki; to Mr. Takeshi Araki, mayor of Hiroshima; Esteemed messrs,

Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who recently visited Japan, told me of your addresses, pervaded with the anguish of the tragedy through which the people of your cities lived and with anxiety over the future of mankind. I am truly moved by your ardent desire to see the world free from nuclear weapons, which are traught with catastrophe for world civilization. Many letters which have come in from Japan -- those from the association of the Nagasaki Victims of Atomic Bombing, the Society for Collection of Signatures in upport of Victims of the Atomic Bombing, the Society of Relatives of People Killed in the Atomic Bombing, the Society of Friends of Victims of the Atomic Bombing and other -- bespeak the same desire.

The two words "Hiroshima" and "Nagasaki" are echoing like the tolling of the bell in the hearts of the upright people of the world today. They are ringing an appeal for preventing nuclear conflagration and safeguarding peace. The Soviet Union understands your anxiety better than any other country. Every Soviet family was singed in the past war, which took a toll of 20 million lives of our people.

Recently our country reiterated its readiness for constructive practical steps to rid mankind of the fear of nuclear catastrophe and to contribute as much as possible to the improvement of the international situation. We proposed a concrete program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons during a definite period of time. Its contents are well-known in Japan.

We are grateful to you for the high appraisal of the new Soviet initiatives expressed by you. We are confident that the pooled efforts of the governments, political parties and peoples can and should create conditions for the people of our planet to enter the 21st century without nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass annihilation. In our assessment, such a task today is vitally important and timely more than any time before. On the other hand, it is realistic and feasible. It is important to act vigorously in the name of it, to act immediately, to act all together.

The clearly defined approach of the Soviet Union to the great goal -- the elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere and for good is supplemented, as is known, by the extension of the moratorium on any nulcear explosions -- the moratorium introduced on the day of the 40th anniversay of the bombing of Hiroshima. By making such a move that met with a positive response on your part, which we appreciate duly, the Soviet Union proposed to the U.S.A. yet another time to join in the moratorium. The benefits of such a step for all are evident.

Moving toward a nuclear-free world, mankind ought to surmount obstacles that may arise on that path. And the main of the obstacles of this kind are attempts to militarize space, to fill the near-earth orbit with space strike arms and turn it into a place d'armes. The realization of the "star wars" concept will blast hopes for a reduction in nuclear arms on earth -- everyone should understand this.

I would like to repeat again: The prevention of the militarization of outer space is the fundamental condition for the termination of the arms race.

The Soviet programme of building the world without nuclear and other armaments by the turn of the century is addressed to all, for no one can remain indifferent in face of the universal threat. We also address our appeal to Japan.

The Japan-proclaimed "three non-nuclear principles", which provide for the renunciation of the possession of nuclear weapons, their production and introduction into its territory, are well-known in the Soviet Union. These principles could receive broad international recognition and set an example for many countries if the world became convinced of their strict and invariable observance.

We know that 900 Japanese cities, townships and villages, inhabited by more than half of the country's population, have proclaimed themselves nuclear-weapon free zones. This mounting movement reflects the striving of the broad masses of the Japanese people to make their country really nuclear-free and thus contribute to eliminating nuclear weapons from the face of earth.

It is inscribed on the memorial stone in Hiroshima: "Rest in peace, the error will not be repeated." This is a vow of remembering the dead, a vow to the present and succeeding generations. It obliges all who cherish peace and life on earth itself to do everything possible to build for mankind a secure road into the future that will have no place for weapons and wars.

Yours sincerely, M. Gorbachev"

Ceremonies Held

LD122217 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 12 TASS -- Ceremonies have taken place in Nagasaki and Hiroshima to deliver Mikhail Gorbachev's reply message to the mayors of the two Japanese cities which were subjected to the U.S. atomic bombings at the end of World War Two.

Speaking at the ceremony, Hitoshi Motoshima, the mayor of Nagasaki, said: "The contents of Mikhail Gorbachev's message meet the innermost aspirations of the population of our city who experienced the consequences of the atomic bombing. I would like to point out the great importance of the Soviet peace initiatives and, in particular, the Soviet Union's readiness, expressed in the reply message, for constructive practical steps with a view to securing the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000."

"We," Mr. Motoshima went on to say, "highly appreciate the Soviet Union's concrete steps towards prohibition of nuclear weapons and, above all, its unilateral termination of nuclear explosions. We wholeheartedly welcome the fact that the USSR has been the first among the countries possessing nuclear weapons to announce a moratorium on nuclear tests".

When accepting the message, Takeshi Araki, the mayor of Hiroshima, said: "The words which are inscribed on the monument to the victims of the atomic bombing 'You May Rest Assured, the Error Will Not Recur' which are contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's reply message are indicative of the profound understanding of our sentiments and of the Soviet people's ardent striving to rid the world of nuclear weapons. This striving produced deep impression.

"The Soviet Union has made active steps in this direction. We the residents of Hiroshima remember well that the USSR introduced a moratorium on nuclear explosions precisely on August 6 the day of the 40th anniversary of the atomic bombing of our city. This is an important step and the residents of Hiroshima highly appreciate it."

Deep gratitude to the Soviet leader for the reply message was expressed on behalf of all people of Nagasaki and Hiroshima by Sendji Yamaguchi, chairman of the Japanese confederation of the organizations of the victims of the atomic bombings, and Sakaya Ito, the co-chairman of the confederation. "The reply message," Mr. Yamaguchi pointed out, "just as the new Soviet peace initiatives, are indicative of the Soviet Union's aspiration to take practical steps in actual fact and not in words towards the elimination of nuclear weapons in order to rid mankind of the nightmare of nuclear war."

JAPANESE TERRITORIAL DEMANDS CRITICIZED

OW130616 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Georgiyev commentary]

[Excerpts] On 7 February, Japan marked Northern Territories Day. In this connection, Moscow Radio commentator Georgiyev makes the following comment:

Northern Territories Day was instituted with the aim of directing as much public opinion as possible in support of the unlawful territorial demand against the Soviet Union. It should be emphasized that it is an unlawful demand, because those who put up that demand have no legal or other grounds whatsoever for doing so. The question of the title to the four islands -- Kunashiri, Etorofu, Habomai, and Shikotan -- which the Japanese refer to as the northern territories, was resolved under international agreements concluded during and after World War II.

The agreement on turning over all islands in the Kurils to the Soviet Union was expressly stated in the agreement on the Far Eastern question signed by leaders of the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain when they met in Yalta on 11 February 1945.

As everyone knows, on 7 February 131 years ago the first Russo-Japanese treaty was signed at Shimoda, under which the four islands claimed by Japan became Japanese possessions. Advocates of the campaign for the territorial demand against the Soviet Union attach great importance to this document, regarding it as the most important basis for their position. So they proclaimed the day when the Shimoda Treaty was signed as Northern Territories Day.

However, it is deemed necessary to raise a question here. Does Japan have any moral or legal justification for citing the 131-year-old document as an example to support its case? There is only one answer to this question, and that is "No."

In 1904, Japan attacked Russia and, as a matter of fact, unilaterally abrogated the Shimoda Treaty. This was clearly stated by an official Japanese representative at the Portsmouth peace conference. He said that the war annulled all treaties and agreements concluded between the belligerent parties. These are the facts. No matter what one may fabricate, it is impossible to change this essence.

The Soviet position on Japan's territorial demand is based on the aforementioned facts. This position is well known in Japan, and was clarified over and over again by the Soviet side.

Therefore, it is unnecessary to repeat it here. In this connection, I only want to say that, no matter what crafty means the advocates may resort to, the campaign for the territorial demand against the Soviet Union has no prospect at all. I think that the advocates of the campaign are well aware of this. They are also aware that the only practical result of this campaign will be a deterioration of relations between the two countries. Then, there naturally arises a question: What is that real aim of the advocates of the territorial demand campaign against the Soviet Union? Are they not regarding this campaign as a tool to fan distrust of the Soviet Union among the Japanese people? Are they not giving this campaign the role of a sort of medium to check Soviet-Japanese relations from making drastic improvements?

Regrettably, there are sufficient grounds for drawing this conclusion. It is quite natural for the Soviet people to deem the marking of Northern Territories Day in Japan and the heated territorial demand campaign as unfriendly acts against our country. The fact that government representatives participate in this campaign substantiates the fact that the territorial demand campaign is encouraged and directed by the official Japanese authorities. Such an act does nothing but harm to the latest tendency of improvement in Soviet-Japanese relations.

The Soviet approach to Japan remains unchanged. The Soviet people are in favor of building Soviet-Japanese relations on the basis of good-neighborliness, mutual trust, and reciprocal cooperation. The Soviet Union is convinced that the task to build such relations between the two countries is certainly attainable if both sides base themselves on existing reality.

It is hoped that this fact will be clearly understood by those who instigate this unfriendly propaganda campaign against the Soviet Union, which runs counter to the interests of the people of the two countries, as well as to the interests of peace and security in Asia.

PRAVDA COMMENTATOR ASSAILS 'TEAM SPIRIT' GAMES

PM121051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Sergey Tikhomirov "Commentator's Column": "A 'Jubilee' Provocation"]

[Text] More than 200,000 U.S. and South Korean servicemen, a large number of aircraft, ships, and other military hardware including nuclear submarines, are taking part in the "Team Spirit-86" maneuvers which opened Monday. Reportedly, in addition to units of the Pentagon's expeditionary (or rather occupation) corps permanently deployed south of the 38th parallel on the Korean peninsula, U.S. naval and air force task forces "stationed" at U.S. bases scattered throughout the vast Pacific region are also to be transferred there.

Washington and Seoul's current large-scale provocation is noteworthy for two reasons. Not just because the militarist "display" marks a jubilee -- the first "Team Spirit" maneuvers were held 10 years ago. The U.S.-South Korean war games clearly pursue the aim of putting the formula devised by the U.S. militarist alchemists, the so-called doctrine of "neoglobalism," to a practical test.

We know that, among other things, this doctrine makes provision for a considerable expansion of the spheres and scale of U.S. interference in the affairs of sovereign states, with the assistance of Washington's placemen. In so far as the Korean peninsula has long been defined as "a sphere of vital interests" for the United States, the Seoul regime has been chosen to play this role in this specific case. This is why "Team Spirit" (as the meaning of the name indicates) fits in perfectly with the new U.S. doctrine. The holding of these maneuvers is intended to infect other states in the region with the spirit of militarism.

Statements by the Pentagon's official spokesmen claiming that the maneuvers are merely intended to test the combat readiness of forces in the event that some kind of "emergency situation" arises, a term usually used by the United States to denote a "threat from the north," from the DPRK, are not likely to mislead anybody. The spuriousness of these statements is obvious.

It is the DPRK which has set an example of a truly constructive approach to reducing tension in the peninsula. The latest confirmation of Pyongyang's principled course toward creating an atmosphere of trust in the peninsula was the DPRK's unilateral pledge to refrain from holding large-scale military maneuvers as from 1 February this year, and also its appeal to South Korea to suspend maneuvers for the duration of the North-South talks.

The DPRK proposal accords with the peace-loving efforts of the socialist countries, and primarily the Soviet Union, which has put forward the idea of a comprehensive approach to resolving security problems in Asia. A positive reponse to these initiatives from Washington and Seoul could have contributed to the transformation of the Asia and Pacific region into a zone of peace and genuine good-neighborliness, a cause which is hampered precisely by the "Team Spirit" propagated during the current U.S.-South Korean maneuvers.

DPRK PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS PLENUM

PM121215 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 Feb -- As the newspaper NODONG SINMUN reported today, a scheduled Workers Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee plenum was held here 5 through 8 February under the chairmanship of Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

The plenum discussed the questions of speeding up scientific and technical progress in the country and reaching plan indicators for steel smelting. It was pointed out that the main direction of the technical revolution lies in updating the production base for the extraction and utilization of raw materials, fuel, and electric power, and modernizing the national economy by rapidly developing machine building, electronics, and automatics. It is planned to increase state appropriations for research in the science and technology sphere. The task has been set to expand economic cooperation with socialist and other countries and actively introducing progressive scientific and technical achievements.

It was pointed out at the plenum that, in order to boost the steel industry, a fundamental turnabout must be made in the development of its raw material base and work must be energetically developed to reconstruct and expand existing steel smelting capacities.

Kim Il-song made the concluding speech. The plenum adopted the corresponding resolutions.

The plenum examined an organizational issue. Hong Si-hak and Hong Song-nam were elected candidate members of the WPK Central Committee Politburo and Yi Kun-mo, Kim Hwan, and Kye Ung-tae were elected WPK Central Committee secretaries.

DRA PROTESTS IRANIAN LEADERSHIP'S 'INTERFERENCE'

PM121157 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "DRA Foreign Ministry Protest"]

[Text] Kabul, 11 Feb--BAKHTAR reports that the Iranian charge d'affaires in the DRA has been summoned to the Afghan Foreign Ministry, where a protest was delivered to him.

According to Iranian press reports, a secret trip to the DRA by some "delegation" comprising Iranian religious figures and representatives of the Afghan counterrevolution ended recently. This "delegation," formed on orders from the top Iranian clergy, illegally infiltrated DRA territory in violation of the principles of good-neighborliness. The same sources revealed that it had been entrusted with creating a so-called "united Islamic front" in Afghanistan.

The DRA demands that the Iranian leadership immediately cease all types of interference and aggressive and provocative actions against the DRA. Otherwise, the DRA Government will be forced to take resolute measures with a view to stopping these hostile actions.

AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENTARIAN'S POSITION ON DRA SCORED

PM111659 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Article by Gennadiy Musayelyan: "'Amendment' to Bismarck"]

[Text] Bismarck once observed that a politician can lie with an easy conscience in three cases -- before elections, in wartime, and after the hunt. A considerable amount of water has flowed under the bridge since then. Some political figures have obviously decided that the idea expressed by the "Iron Chancellor" has clearly become out-dated. And, therefore, one can lie on other occasions without any pangs of conscience.

A clear example is provided by the conjectures with which F. Ermacora, deputy of the Austrian Parliament, addressed an anti-Afghan conference. This conference was recently organized in Vienna by the opposition Austrian People's Party.

Let us say outright that Ermacora's speeches had exactly the same effect as an irritating, worn-out record. He gave it a spin in May last year at a session of a UN commission, speaking on "human rights." And what didn't he say! A stream of phantasmagoria about cruel repressions by the DRA authorities and the limited Soviet troop contingent which is in that country at their request, a eulogy to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, who have been named "fighters for their faith," maxims on their "profound morality," "loyalty to Islam," and so forth.

What can be said on this score? False statements of this kind have been made in the West on many occasions, but each time their effect has been equal to a burst soap bubble. Fewer and fewer people believe these old wive's tales which are not reinforced by any facts. The world fully knows that the monstrous atrocities in Afghanistan are by no means perpetrated by Afghan soldiers and the Soviet servicemen who have come to their aid, but by dushman bands. During the years of people's power the enemies of the revolution have destroyed 1,814 school buildings, 31 hospitals, 906 peasant cooperatives, hundreds of trucks, 14,000 kilometers of telephone lines and the power transmission network, and so forth. The total damage inflicted on the country amounts to more than 35 billion afghanis.

At the end of last year alone, a number of criminal terrorist acts were committed which aroused deep indignation in all honest people. A civil airliner with 52 passengers on board was shot down by a dushman "surface to air" missile, and dushmans organized explosions at Kabul airport and at Kabul Polytechnic Institute. Dozens of people were killed and injured as a result. Such acts of sabotage as the explosion of a grenade in the ("Dar-ul-Khefaz") religious academy and in a hotel for pilgrims in Mazar-e Sharif, and the bombardment of the courtyard of a mosque in Herat founded in the 13th century -- one of the mosques most revered by Afghan muslims -- can hardly be counted as an asset for the "defense of Islam." Thousands of believers and hundreds of representatives of the clergy have perished from the dushmen terror and 254 mosques have been destroyed. During the last 4 years alone the DRA Government has spent $5.5 million to restore these mosques.

If the enemy cannot kill with bullets or shells, he tries poison. The poisonous lie is also a weapon. It was precisely to this poison that one (Yanata), chairman of one of the anti-Afghan organizations founded in Austria, resorted when speaking at the conference. He wept crocodile tears over the act that more and more peasants are taking up arms and joining the detachments in defense of the revolution. "This means," (Yanata) said, "that hard working Afghan peasants, in particular, are being deprived of the opportunity to work the land."

It is difficult to cite an example of greater hypocrisy! Before the revolution, 73 percent of all plots of land suitable for cultivation belonged to feudal lords and landowners, while the remaining 27 percent was allocated among 1.5 million peasant families. Approximately 500,000 rural workers were totally without land. Today more than 312,000 families have already received land free of charge. And a program of measures to continue the reform has been developed. It envisages allocating land to another 80,000 familes. The people's power sells fertilizers and seed at favorable prices and rents equipment.

"The masters in our country are the working people," said the gray-haired Abdul Ghani, with whom I chanced to meet in Kabul during the DRA National Fatherland Front Congress. "The land reform and liberation from old tax debts are of great significance for millions of peasants. We ardently support the formation of the National Fatherland Front and actively participate in its work. At present things are not easy for us," Abdul continued. "The imperialists and dushmans want to commit the Afghan land to the flames and once again render us dumb and without rights. We work in the fields by day, and at night we defend the revolution with weapons in our hands. Although I am already an old man, as long as I have keen sight my rifle butt will not quiver on my shoulder. I have three sons. They are all serving in the army, defending the honor and freedom of the fatherland. However difficult it may be for us peasants, we always remember: The revolution needs bread. The state has given me 3 jeribs of land, and a good wheat crop has been gathered from it. And I am not the only one..."

In whose voice did the participants in the Vienna anti-Afghan conference sing? In the voice of the United States, its NATO allies, and local Asian reactionaries waging an undeclared war against the DRA. It was Washington that allocated $470 million this year in aid for the Afghan counterrevolution and Washington that demands that Pakistan step up its aggressive actions against the republic, actions in which, as the London newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH writes, Americans who fought in Vietnam participate.

The Hong Kong journal FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW recently made this curious statement: "If the Americans, Chinese, and Pakistanis wished to invest as much energy in peaceful negotiations as they put into kindling this war (in Afghanistan), we could have a peaceful settlement tomorrow." But Washington has no desire for a political settlement.

This opinion grows stronger with every passing day. And consequently, there is no way -- other than impudence -- to explain the conclusion drawn by Ermacora regarding the USSR's alleged reluctance to settle the Afghan problem by political means.

The report on the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva and on the international situation with which M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, addressed the 4th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th Convocation, stresses: "The Soviet Union consistently works for a political settlement of the situation surrounding Afghanistan. We are in favor of friendly, neighboring Afghanistan being an independent, nonaligned state, and in favor of the establishment of a regime of guaranteed noninterference in Afghanistan's affairs. The question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country will also thereby be resolved."

PRAVDA INTERVIEWS NEW DRA GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

PM061231 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondents V. Okulov, V. Shurygin report under the rubric "Our Interviews": "The Social Base Is Widening"]

[Text] Kabul, February -- Our interviewees are well known people in Afghanistan. They have only recently taken important posts in the Council of Ministers. But before introducing them to our readers, let us explain the situation in a few words.

A fundamental principle of the new approach to widening the social base of revolutionary power in Afghanistan proclaimed by the People's Democratic Party is real participation in all state organs by nonparty people -- political allies from various strata of society. We talked to some of the new people who have been brought into the country's leadershp.

We introduce Abdul Wahed Sorabi, doctor of economics, member of the DRA Revolutionary Council and minister of state for cultural and social issues. The new statesmen of this rank, while not heading an apparatus, are members of the cabinet and give advice to its chairman, doing much to determine the country's policy.

Sorabi's grandfather, a villager, had a plot of land in Ghazni Province. His father was a minor state employee, and the 59-year-old doctor of economics himself is one of the few representatives of the intelligentsia among the Hazaras -- probably the most oppressed ethnic group in prerevolutionary Afghanistan.

After graduating from high school brilliantly, Sorabi continued his education at the school of world trade in Vienna. He was dean of the Kabul University economics faculty. A very experienced specialist, he was minister of planning under Zahir Shah.

How does he assess the PDPA's policy aimed at widening the social base of the revolution?

"It is a reasonable, realistic policy," Dr Sorabi answers with conviction. "After all, we live in the real world, not an ideal world. The PDPA takes into account the particular features of a national democratic revolution in a technically backward country where more than 90 percent of the population were illiterate, where age-old traditions are strong, and where the forces of imperialism and reaction are waging an undeclared war against the people's power. The new approach is new only in practice, not in theory. Its main features were formulated in the Basic Principles of the DRA. I am confident that if we proceed realistically without forcing the pace, the revolutionary process will develop effectively."

Dr Sorabi is deputy chairman of the recently formed Central Council of the Hazara working people -- an organization intended to defend the tribesmen's interests and widely involve the Hazaras in the process of the renewal and national rebirth of the country . We asked him how the revolution has changed the Hazaras' lives.

[Sorabi] Throughout Afghanistan's history my industrious people have been subjected to oppression and exploitation. To this day you can see carts carring heavy loads in the streets of Kabul -- pulled by Hazaras. The proverb "He who has been bitten by a snake fears even a coil of rope" is about us -- the Hazaras have never expected anything good from the authorities. But now the times are changing. The revolution has proclaimed and seeks to ensure in practice not only legal, but actual equality for all the peoples of Afghanistan. The Hazaras have felt for the first time that the PDPA and the government are concerned about their problems. It is noteworthy that DRA Prime Minister Soltan Ali Keshtmand is a Hazara by nationality. We look to the future with optimism.

We asked the minister his opinion about the state of the DRA's economy.

[Sorabi] Ensuring peace and security in the country is the main national problem whose resolution directly affects the economy's development. All the same, despite the tremendous difficulties imposed by the underclared war, tangible results have been achieved -- the level of production of industrial output has passed the prerevolutionary level. The Soviet Union's effective assistance helps to a great extent to stabilize the economy.

The problems of the country's economic life are the sphere of interest of our other interviewee. Fazel Khan Khalekyar is minister of state for economic and financial issues. He is from a family of intellectuals and was born in Herat in 1934. After receiving economic education at Kabul University, he became one of the main experts on banking and credit. Formerly he was a deputy minister of finance and provincial governor. He has represented Afghanistan on international banks.

[Fazel Khan Khalekyar] "One of the aims of the undeclared war being waged against us by theforces of imperialism and regional reaction is to undermine Afghanistan's economy," the minister said. "Vast resources are diverted into opposing that war. The economic projects which were being built with the help of credits from the International Reconstruction and Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank, particularly the Herat meat combine and electricity lines in Helmand Province, remained unfinished. They were deprived of technical assistance and finance. Without cooperation with the USSR it would be impossible to develop the country's economy. Our northern neighbor gives us help with materials and credits and in the construction of projects. We supply the traditional Afghan exports to the USSR."

Question: What is the role of the private sector in the economy ?

[Fazel Khan Khalekyar] It plays an important role in the DRA's economic life. Better use must be made of its potential. This is the aim of the revolutionary democratic states's policy. Businessmen and merchants have rich experience and must make their contribution to the national democratic revolution.

Question: Is a concrete machinery being developed for involving private capital in the country 's economy?

[Fazel Khan Khalekyar] The rights and powers of the economic consultative council have been extended. Businessmen, merchants, and landowners are represented among its elected personnel.

The question was raised at a council session of improving the legal basis for the establishment of mutually advantageous relations between national businessmen and the state within the framework of the mixed sector and on the basis of individual partnership. We are taking steps to eliminate the difficulties that exist in this matter and are improving the conditions for giving credit to the private sector of the economy and supply it with raw materials. The role of the of chamber of trade and industry in the country's economic life is increasing. The state's collaboration with craftmen's cooperatives is improving. In a word, work is in progress in the economy to help widen the social base of revolutionary power.

TASS REPORTS LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN DRA

LD100937 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 10 TASS -- "Elections to the local government bodies -- the councils of people's representatives have been held in Badakhshan, Balkh, Nangarhar, Nimruz, and Kabul Provinces as well as in the capital of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan", Veniamin Shurygin, PRAVDA's Kabul correspondent, writes in the newspaper today. "About 380 councils have been formed,with more than four thousand deputies elected to them".

"Analysing the course and results of the polling, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) points out a high turnout of voters. Regarding the holding of the elections as an important political campaign to broaden the social basis of the April Revolution, the Political Bureau of the PDPA Central Committee is calling on the working people to elect to the government bodies the most authoritative persons who are capable of leading the masses to the solution of urgent problems and, first of all, the main of them -- ensure peace and security inside the country and in the region".

50 DIE IN AFGHAN 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY' CAMPS

PM101047 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Guards of Pushtun Tribes. Dushmans Being Rebuffed"]

[Text] Kabul, 6 Feb -- According to reports received here, Pushtun detachments have attacked two Afghan counterrevolutionary camps in the Kurram region. Approximately 50 dushmans were killed as a result of that operation. The headquarters of an anti-Afghan group trying to consolidate its hold with the help of the Pakistani military was blown up in the Parachinar region.

Pushtuns have held jirgahs (meetings) and demonstrations in various regions of the Khyber mountain pass. The BAKHTAR agency reports that the participants inajirgah in Kurram declared their firm support for the just struggle of the Pushtun Afridi and Shinwari tribes and demanded that the Pakistani military immediately cease its armed intervention in Khyber and that the counterrevolutionary gangs be driven out of the Pushtun tribes' zone of settlement.

Rallies with the participants of representatives of Pushtun tribes have been held in Afghanistan's Helmand Province. Their participants demanded that the Pakistani authorities immediately withdraw their troops from Khyber and declared their solidarity with the Pushtuns' struggle.

Commenting on the events in the Khyber region, the BAKHTAR agency points out that, by throwing thousands of soldiers, tanks, and aircraft against the Shinwari and Afridi tribes, the Islamabad regime has most flagrantly violated their traditional rights. Pushtun families have been forced to seek shelter from bloody repression in friendly Afghanistan.

The Islamabad rulers, the agency emphasizes, do not take a single step without consulting Washington. Killings of defenseless people and their expulsion from their homeland are being carried out with the U.S. Administration's knowledge and blessing.

KRASNAYA ZVEŽDA REPORTS MASSACRE OF AFGHANS

PM071327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Bloody Crime"]

[Text] Delhi, 6 Feb -- The Indian weekly NEW AGE has reported a new bloody crime committed on Afghan soil by the counterrevolutionary rabble and CIA agents.

It happened in Helmand Province, where a dushman gang infiltrated the territory from Pakistan. In broad daylight they entered the small village of Yakhchal and carried out a bloody massacre. The bestial killers then drove the surviving women, old men, and children into the center of the village, where a film crew had previously taken up position. On a command from the "director" -- who was armed to the teeth -- the bandits, wearing Afghan Army uniforms, started shooting the entirely innocent people. Their deaths were coldly recorded on film and the leader of this monstrous movie-butchers' atrocity asked the dushmans to repeat the execution scene over and over. When not a single villager was left alive the bandits burned down all the houses.

Soon after the crime the name of the commander who ordered the killers to shoot the old men and children was discovered. It was not the first time that Michel Barry had carried out this dirty work at the instigation of his CIA masters, who needed "proof" at all costs of the nonexistent violence perpetrated against the peaceful population by Afghan soldiers. To that end Barry was repeatedly sent to the DRA with dushman gangs where his group made movie forgeries like the one concocted out of the blood and lives of the Yakhchal villagers.

BRIEFS

DRA SCIENCE PROTOCOL -- Kabul, February 10 TASS -- The U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Sciences of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) have signed a protocol on cooperation in research in history. The document provides for an exchange of delegations of scientists, the training of future Afghan historians in Soviet higher schools, joint work to issue research papers in the field of the history of Afghanistan and Soviet-Afghan relations, the study of historic monuments kept at DRA's museums. Under the protocol, Soviet and Afghan specialists are to prepare and bring out a book on the political, economic and cultural ties between the two countries in 1919-1978. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 10 Feb 86 LD]

VOTE COUNTING CONTINUES IN PHILIPPINE ELECTIONS

Efforts To Avoid Confrontation

LD121921 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, February 12 TASS -- The special parliamentary commission continues its tally of official results of the presidential elections held in the Philippines on February 7. Today, the commission received ballot boxes with the summary results of the voting in 103 out of 140 cities and provinces of the country.

Political tensions are gradually abating. Classes resumed today at Manila's educational institutions. The order on the maintenance of the troops' enhanced alert, which was issued for the period of elections, was cancelled. Addressing a press conference here, Ferdinand Marcos, head of state, stressed that the governemnt exerts maximum effort to avoid confrontation. He said that if the National Assembly announces with a victor on the strength of the election returns, he will set up a supreme consultative body at the government to include in its composition representatives of the opposition led by C. Aquino

Filipinos Condemn 'Interference'

LD121908 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Report by correspondents Vladimir Pasko and Aleksandr Redchenko on Philippine presidential election]

[Text] [Pasko] It has been reported from Manila that the state of enhanced combat readiness for the Philippine Armed Forecs was lifted and classes in all of the country's educational establishments were resumed. These classes were postponed during the presidential elections. The tallying of election results, which was broken off yesterday, has resumed in the Philippine National Assembly. Reports are expected to reach the assembly from 74 provinces, 56 towns, and 10 districts of greater Manila. By this morning, the results from 103 towns and provinces had been received. We have a report from our correspondent in Manila, Aleksandr Redchenko.

[Redchenko] The counting of the votes cast for the presidential candidates is being complicated by the scattered nature of the over 80,000 polling stations in the Philippines, which is called the country of 7,000 islands. Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the Philippine President, Marcos, once again urged the people to be calm, maintain order and avoid the ourbreak of any incidents.

The official results of the Philippine presidential elections will be announced by the National Assembly when the votes have been counted from all the constituencies and polling stations. The local mass media continues to cite facts about interference in the Philippines' internal affairs by the United States. Distorting the true state of affairs in the country and exacerbating an unpleasant atmosphere over the process of the conduct of the elections, U.S. propaganda is even striving to put psychological pressure on National Assembly members. The crude interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state is giving rise to indignation among various sections of the Philippine public. In the last few days there have been large-scale demonstrations and meetings in Manila and other towns in the country in which the participants have sharply condemned the U.S.'s great power policy and demanded an end to U.S. interference in the affairs of the Philippine Republic.

[Pasko] Continuing with this subject, the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE has reported a speech by the U.S. President at a press conference in Washington during which he emphasized the importance of the U.S. bases in the Philippines to the United States. The desire to maintain them, in view of growing protests by the Philippine people over the U.S. military presence, may, in many ways, explain Washington's increasing attention to the outcome of the elections in that country.

U.S., BRITAIN EXERT PRESSURE ON NEW ZEALAND

LD016300 Moscow TASS in English 1201 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 6 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes:

"Rainbow is unsinkable," says the legend on the badge of the Greenpeace environmentalist and anti-nuke organization, which has set out to have France stop its nuclear tests at Mururoa atoll in Polynesia. Men, women and children participating in mass demonstrations in New Zealand nowadays demand a ban on calls by U.S. nuclear-armed ships at the ports of the country. Time will tell if the anti-nuclear aspirations of millions of people in the South Pacific will come true. But nowadays Washington and its allies are doing whatever they can to kill the hopes of the population of the region for a nuclear-free future. This is exemplified by London's recent decision to play the role of Washington's Trojan horse.

The well-connected Australian newspaper AGE reports that in the middle of February Admiral John Fieldhouse, chief of defence staff of Great Britain, will pay a visit to New Zealand. The visit is intended to step up pressure on Wellington to make it revise its anti-nuclear stand.

The Government of New Zealand has submitted to parliament a draft bill banning calls by U.S. nuclear-armed warships at New Zealand ports.

The Australian newspaper is most probably right. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has more that once fumed against New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy and London has already announced that a task group of British warships will be dispatched to the Pacific this year.

Admiral Fieldhouse's visit and the dispatch of British warships to the Pacific can be viewed, and with good reason, as the Tories' attempt to make a contribution to the U.S. campaign of blackmail and pressure on New Zealand.

This pressure is explained most probably by Washington's fear of the "domino effect." The U.S. Administration is afraid that New Zealand's example will be followed by other countries. If this happens, Washington reasons, the U.S. nuclear forces will have to withdraw from other regions the peoples of which have long been opposed energetically to the dubious honour of being nuclear hostages to the USA. That is why London has been asked to bang its nuclear fist on the table.

BRIEFS

RADIO BROADCASTS IN LAOS — Until recently radio programs were broadcast by lower-capacity transmitters of obsolete design from Vientiane and provincial centers of the country. Now the national radio of the Lao People's Democratic Republic broadcasts using a new, medium range radio transmitter, with a capacity fo 150 KW, an a 280 meter antenna, one of the highest in Southeast Asia, the voice of Vientiane is now audible in the most far-flung corners of the country. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Jan 86 LD]

VOSS ATTENDS PARLIAMENTARIANS' SESSION IN WARSAW

LD122345 Moscow TASS in English 2308 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Warsaw, February 12 TASS -- A wide-ranging exchange of views on cooperation between the parliamentarions of fraternal countries in the struggle for peace, disarmament and development of parliamentary contacts is now under way at a consultative meeting of the leaders of the parliamentary groups of socialist states. The meeting which opened here today is being attended by representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, the DPRK, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia. Much attention at the meeting is being given to matters of preparation for the forthcoming 75th conference of the Interparliamentary Union which is to be held in Mexico.

Roman Malinowski, marshal of the Polish Sejm, made a speech at the meeting, pointing out the exceptional importance of the programme, which has been put forward in the statement dated January 15 by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for full elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons before the year 2000.

The Soviet leader's proposals create immense opportunities for ensuring a peaceful future for the planet. They should not be missed. The radical programme aimed at ridding the world of the weapons of mass destruction is particularly close to socialist countries. It meets the interests of the whole of mankind. Roman Malinowski also emphasized the importance of a number of major documents of the Soviet parliament aimed at strengthening peace and security.

The participants in consultative meeting were received today by Tadeusz Porebski, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP). He acquainted the guests with the socio-political and economic position of the country and with the course of preparation for the Tenth Congress of the PUWP.

On behalf of the participants in the meeting, Avgust Voss, the leader of the Soviet delegation, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, expressed gratitude to the hosts of the Warsaw meeting. He emphasized the importance of cooperation between the parliamentarians of socialist countries in the struggle for peace and disarmament.

PRAVDA CITES HONECKER PRAISE FOR ARMS PROPOSAL

PM121059 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Broad Approval"]

[Text] Berlin, 10 Feb -- The program to totally eliminate nuclear weapons everywhere, which was put forward in the Statement by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, has found broad approval and support in the GDR, and also among the international public. This was stated by E. Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the GDR State Council, at a conference of the Berlin SED district organizaton held here. The bold and constructive Soviet peace initiatives provide a historic chance to save mankind from a nuclear catastrophe and ensure the world's peaceful future. To use this opportunity is the command of reason, the GDR leader notes. It in essential to bring about a radical improvement in the international situation and reliably ensure the peoples' security in the spirit of the Soviet-U.S. accords reached in Geneva.

E. Honecker stressed that the development of good-neighborly relations between European states in the spheres of politics, the economy, culture, science, and technology is in the peoples' interests. Noting the responsibility of both German states -- the GDR and the FRG -- for the fate of peace on the continent, the GDR leader spoke in favor of neither the GDR nor the FRG participating in the militarization of space under any pretext and neither German state taking any steps in the period of negotiations between the USSR and the United States that could complicate these negotiations, By decisively dissociating itself from the SDI program, he stressed, the FRG could make its own contribution to the success of talks between the USSR and the United States.

HUNGARY HAILS SOVIET DISARMAMENT PROGRAM

PM121137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Budapest, 11 Feb -- The Soviet Union's constructive, concrete initiatives, put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, are of exceptionally great significance in ensuring mankind's peaceful future. They are directed toward the elimination of nuclear arms, the prevention of the militarization of outer space, and the general and complete destruction of chemical weapons. This is spoken of in a statement issued here by the Hungarian National Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission.

The Soviet proposals, the document notes, take account of the security interests of all interested parties. They offer a good opportunity for the phased, fair resolution of the problems which exist and for the elaboration of compromise solutions at international disarmament forums.

The Hungarian National Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission fully supports and approves the large-scale disarmament program put forward by the USSR. All realistically minded politicians and the world's peace-loving forces must do everything to promote the realization of concrete measures aimed at strengthening international security and eliminating nuclear weapons, the statement stresses.

HUNGARIAN TRADE UNION PRESIDENT WRITES IN TRUD.

PM111415 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Feb 86 p 3

[Article by Sandor Gaspar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and president of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council: "The Road to the Future"]

[Text] The 25th Hungarian Trade Unions Congress Begins 14 February. It will sum up the results of the trade unions' activity in the last 5 years and, on the basis of the decisions of the 13th MSZMP Congress, will define the tasks and main avenues of development of the trade union movement through 1990.

In the course of socialist building Hungarian working people have achieved considerable successes and the most important human assets have been realized: the right to work, full employment, universal social insurance, compulsory secondary education, free medical services. Moreover, every Hungarian citizen has equal opportunities for social advancement.

People look to the future with confidence. However, in our movement forward we have exhausted the potential of extensive development. Further growth now entails great difficulties. These also arise from the fact that the cost of Hungarian articles on the world market has fallen and the relationship between export and import prices continues to deteriorate.

We face the task of reorganizing the Hungarian economy. It is necessary to create a technically highly developed national economic machine that would be efficient and serve as a base for the implementation of our social objectives. This work is very complex and large-scale in every respect. It requires not only consistency, but also flexibility in choosing the best options for a rapid national economic upsurge.

That is why, in accordance with our specific conditions, we are carrying out various experiments and introducing all kinds of innovations which we believe will promote the growth of economic efficiency. Thus we have increased the autonomy of enterprises, introduced a system of electing economic leaders, organized small businesses [predprinimatelskiye khozyaystva] under the strict control of state organs in many spheres of the national economy, and set up workers' teams at plants to fulfill production targets after the working day.

The fulfillment of the 7th 5-Year Plan is of special significance in our people's life. If we achieve it, there will be a radical change in the entire national economic machinery and in the improvement of living and working conditions for all the people. But the implementation of these tasks depends on how we uncover our potential and whether we make good use of resources and reserves. The working class and all the working people of Hungary are fully determined to overfulfill the targets set. Then, during the following 5-year plan, we will be able to complete a stage of socioeconomic development which will enable us to realize many of socialism's great intentions.

The fulfillment of the 7th 5-Year Plan tasks is the main aim of Hungarian trade unions. That is why we have elaborated a trade union program of action which will promote the successful implementation of plan targets. Thus trade union organizers centrally and locally are now concentrating their attention on increasing efficiency, responsibility, and initiative in all sectors of work. To work better, more economically, and more rationally in order to more rapidly create the necessary base to satisfy the working people's justified requirements -- that is our main task. In order to carry it out we are mobilizing the efforts of millions of workers, peasants, and employees.

Trade union organs support any efforts to improve production efficiency and use their resources to help implement any initiative which contributes to increasing the country's economic might. They devote special attention to the observance of order, the strengthening of discipline, and the enhancement of the level of organization and assiduousness. The trade unions direct their efforts toward technical development and the creation of highly profitable production.

In the course of the precongress report and election campaign, when shortcomings in our development were discussed, the working people not infrequently asked: Where were the trade unions and what was their stance? A fair question. Under socialism, no question which concerns problems of the national economy and people's living and working conditions can be resolved without the trade unions. Thus the Hungarian trade unions take part in the elaboration of economic decisions and put forward amendments where necessary. Sometimes this is not easy to do, but it must be done. Vladimir Ilich Lenin himself warned of the difficulties of this position on the party of the trade unions. After all, the effectiveness of both the functions of trade unions is put to the test.

It is the pride and honor of the fraternal countries' trade unions that their experience of activity under the conditions of socialism confirms that they cope successfully with this complex mission and help to strengthen the moral and political foundations of the new society.

However, there are still shortcomings in the activity of Hungarian trade union organs. Their work is often of a bureaucratic nature and the democratic nature of our domestic life and links with ordinary members are not sufficiently manifested. It is no longer enough to adhere to old forms and methods. It is necessary to seek new, more expedient solutions even when this entails great difficulties. Ultimately, the vitality of each initiative will indicate what level the economy has reached.

One important task facing the Hungarian trade unions is the further development of labor competition and the enhancement of the role of socialist labor teams. The methods we use do not bear fruit everywhere. They must be changed. In our view, the working people must be granted still greater autonomy in socialist competition and we should take care to ensure that they are better informed and that all the conditions are created for the realization of the aims of competition. Trade union leaders and the working people themselves are to an equal degree responsible for its results. We therefore consider it the trade unions' task to develop at the workplaces an atmosphere in which a creative mood, conscientious work, and efforts made in the interests of the entire collective are recognized and valued. At Hungarian enterprises this is indeed the spirit in which socialist competition takes place for the most part. But there are serious defects: Not infrequently, competition is allowed to take its course and is purely formal, and the results are not publicized.

Another important sphere of activity for the Hungarian trade unions is concern for those who have embarked on a well-earned rest. We seek to achieve a situation where enterprises take on full responsibility for the future of that section of the population. But not the least important thing is for more attention to be devoted to elderly parents by their children and families, and without any administrative coercion. Those who did not take care of their relatives do not merit the respect of the collective or the recognition of society. That is the trade unions' principled stance.

The Hungarian working people are prepared to realize the historic goals set by the 13th party congress. They support all efforts to consolidate the results achieved and accelerate socialist development. We have reserves. They include the better utilization of three-shift production, the improvement of the organization of labor, and the modernization of technology and the entire technical level of enterprises. Saving materials, raw materials, and energy must become an integral part of work.

The struggle for a better future, the struggle against everything obsolete -- these are the daily slogans of Hungarian working people. Today we seek the paths to tomorrow and develop the methods of future social and economic development. Our country is poor in natural resources. Therefore our main reserves are labor enthusiasm, knowledge, and political and professional competence. Economic growth is also inseparably linked to the improvement of cultural, ideological, and political work.

We have no possibility of building socialism according to formulas prepared beforehand. And indeed, no such formulas exist. In order to create a developed socialist society, it is necessary, together with mighty working people's power, to have a conscious socialist attitude toward social ownership, and there is also a need for spiritual values to be reflected in people's thoughts and actions. In this most important work we are constantly aware of the all-around support of the party and state.

The leading force of our society, the MSZMP, determines the trade unions' activity. That is one of the main conditions for the successful development of Hungary's trade union movement.

Together with the working people of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and with the world's progressive forces, Hungarian trade unions participate actively in the struggle for peace and against the nuclear arms race. They resolutely support the Soviet Union's new peace initiatives set forth in the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Hungarian trade unions are active, consistent supporters of the widening and deepening of cooperation with the socialist countries' fraternal organizations. The Soviet trade unions' experience is particularly important to us.

In the interests of accelerating socioeconomic development, the CPSU is today implementing measures of international significance. They will have a substantial influence on trade union work methods. Hungarian working people are following with exceptionally great interest the changes taking place in the USSR, in which the Soviet trade unions play a great role. In our activity we have always used the rich experience of the trade unions of the USSR and the other socialist countries.

We are proud of our results, but we also realistically see that we have not yet achieved all the foundations of the socialist society which V.I. Lenin elaborated and scientifically substantiated. We therefore plan and execute our every step in a way as to move precisely in that direction. That is the principled approach with which the Hungarian trade unions approach their main event -- their 25th congress.

BRIEFS

POLISH FRIENDSHIP PROTOCOL -- A protocol on cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society for this year has been signed in Warsaw. The document emphasizes that the activity of friendship societies of the two countries, which is aimed at further strengthening of Soviet-Polish all-around cooperation, this year will be carried out under the sign of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 11 Feb 86 LD]

FRG TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITS USSR

PM121151 Moscow TRUD in Russian 12 Feb 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "At Invitation of AUCCTU"]

[Text] A delegation of the German Trade Union Federation [DGB] (FRG), headed by L. Zimmermann, member of the DGB Executive Committee, is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the AUCCTU.

A talk was held with S.A. Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman, in the course of which the sides exchanged information on trade union activity in the USSR and the FRG and discussed some questions of developing Soviet-West German trade union ties. The Soviet side stressed the significance of the new proposals put forward in the statement by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary. AUCCTU Secretary L.A. Zemlyannikova participated in the talk.

The DGB delegation met with cultural figures and board members of the Central House of Arts Workers and also visited the Lenin Komsomol Motor Vehicle Plant's Palace of Culture, where it was acquainted with trade union activity to organize amateur creative work by working people and with cultural and educational work. The guests from the FRG will also visit Donetsk and Tbilisi.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA INTERVIEWS WILLI BRANDT

PM121137 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 12 February in its First Edition carries on page 5 a 1,500-word interview with Willi Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and chairman of the Socialist International, by F. Markov, APN correspondent in the FRG. The interview is entitled "W. Brandt: Learning To Live Together," is carried under the rubric "Europe -- Our Common Home," and has no dateline. Brandt gives his party's views on the recent Soviet disarmament program and echoes the international call for new thinking in the nuclear age. Brandt supports Gorbachev's call for an end to the arms race, criticizes plans to militarize space, and agrees that the resources saved by disarmament could be channeled into economic and social development. Brandt ends by outlining measures to strengthen international security, including improved Soviet-U.S. relations and the removal of medium-range nuclear weapons from Europe.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM

PM121615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Boris Kotov "Commentator's Column": "A Solution Is Possible"]

[Text] A meeting is currently being held in Athens between President S. Kyprianou of Cyprus, Greek President K. Sartzetakis, and Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou. Its participants welcomed the USSR's recent proposal "Principles for a Cyprus Settlement and Ways of Achieving It," describing it as a "constructive and positive" proposal that opens up the way to a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus question.

The urgent need for such a settlement is eloquently manifested by the recently exacerbated situation both in the Mediterranean region in general and Cyprus in particular.

The Cyprus problem, in the words of a foreign newspaper, is the "festering wound" of the eastern Mediterranean. Indeed, for more than a quarter of a century now, since the formation in 1960 of the independent Republic of Cyprus, imperialist intrigues have been woven around this small island situated in an important strategic position.

The United States and NATO strive to perpetuate the split in the country and turn Cyprus into their own military-strategic springboard, an "unsinkable aircraft carrier." The attempts by the United States and its NATO allies to get their hands on Cyprus have been noticeably stepped up in recent weeks.

There is a strengthening conviction both on Cyprus itself and among the states of the world community that a Cyprus settlement will only be viable if it is reached through collective efforts on the part of all interested parties and is based on the definite principles minutely elaborated in the Soviet proposals. They envisage, in particular, that the Republic of Cyprus remain an independent, autonomous, territorially integral, and united state, and that its sovereignty embrace the entire territory of the island without exception. The questions of the Cypriot state's internal makeup, including the possibility of the creation of a federation, must be resolved peacefully by Greek and Turkish Cypriots themselves.

The demilitarization of the island's territory is an indispensable condition for a settlement. Its use by other states for military purposes is impermissible. Finally, the Cyprus question must be resolved within the UN framework by convening a representative international conference on Cyprus for that purpose.

The Cypriot newspaper KHARAVYI calls the Soviet initiative an important and portentious step. Yes, that is so, because it proposes a realistic way of ensuring a cardinal solution to the Cyprus problem in the interests of all Cypriots and the cause of peace in the Mediterranean.

ITALIAN COMMUNIST LEADER PRAISES ARMS PROPOSALS

LD101853 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] Rome, February 10 TASS -- Alessandro Natta, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party, has stressed the importance of the Soviet peace initiatives formulated in the statement of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

In an interview with the newspaper L'UNITA he pointed out the special importance of the Soviet proposal to remove altogether from the European Continent nuclear medium-range missiles. A. Natta pointed out that the USSR attached major importance to the role played by Europe in the disarmament process. In his opinion, West European countries can become a reliable political and economic partner of socialist countries.

He said that the policy of the Washington administration pursued in the interests of the militaristic forces led to the aggravation of contradictions in relations between the U.S. and its European allies and came up against the growing opposition throughout the world. A. Natta underlined that the attention of the world was centered around the Soviet foreign policy initiatives.

Natta Interviewed on Visit

For an interview with PCI Secretary General Alessandro Natta covering his visit to Moscow and his talks with Soviet officials, including with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, that was carried in Milan L'UNITA in Italian on 9 February, please see the Italy section of the 13 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

SPANISH NATO REFERENDUM DISCUSSED, DEBATED

IZVESTIYA Report

PM061051 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Spain: Referendum Set"]

[Text] Madrid — A referendum on the question of Spain's NATO membership, which has provoked an animated political debate in the country over the more than 3 years that the Socialists have been in power, is planned for 12 March this year. This became known 31 January at the end of a session of the country's Council of Ministers. The formulation of the question submitted for general discussion is also known.

As A. Guerra, the country's deputy prime minister, declared at a press conference, "the cabinet of ministers hopes that the people will support and understand the new stand taken by the government, which considers Spain's continued NATO membership important for its national interests." True, he also emphasized here the government's obligations stemming from this stand, which it guarantees to fulfill and which, incidentally, are already known to the Spanish: the preservation of the country's nuclear-free status, nonparticipation on NATO's military structures, and the gradual reduction of the U.S. presence in Spain.

The voting paper during the referendum will set forth this political platform of the government, and only then will the question itself, which must be answered, follow: "Do you agree that Spain should remain in the North Atlantic alliance on the terms set by the government?"

This is how the Spanish Socialists' original promise to "withdraw the country from the aggressive NATO military bloc by a simple majority of votes in parliament or as the result of a nationwide referendum" has been transformed. Even though the Spanish Socialist Workers Party government is now asking for support for its quite different stand, nonetheless during the same press conference A. Guerra repeated F. Gonzalez' recent statement that "the will of the Spanish, voiced in the referendum, will be morally and politically binding on him, to be implemented." Immediately after A. Guerra's press conference and his optimistic protestations as to the possibility of both winning the referendum and upholding the three obligations expounded by him, the leaders of various political parties rejected such a scenario for the development of events in Spain, calling it a "smoke screen" and a "frivolous fantasy."

As already reported, the government sought to set the date of the referendum for a weekday and not a Sunday so as to secure the maximum turnout by the population, and so it happened. Long before the Council of Ministers decision, foreseeing such a variant, the right-wing opposition parties raised a ballyhoo about the fact that the loss of a work day by the country, which would cost the national economy 40 billion pesetas, as well as the 2 billion allocated for holding the referendum itself, is a luxury the country cannot afford. They will now try to fight the Socialists over this question within the walls of the Congress of Deputies (the lower chamber of the Spanish parliament). The latter is to approve the government's decision during a debate scheduled for 4 February on questions of foreign policy and national security.

In short, the parliamentary debate on foreign policy, to be held from 4 through 6 February, promises to be heated. Particularly as 1 of these 3 days will be entirely devoted to the referendum. As a popular Spanish television commentator joked, an unusual parliamentary bullfight is expected.

Surguchev Commentary

LD071319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Igor Surguchev commentary]

[Text] Debates on the socialist government's foreign and defense policy have ended in the Cortez, the Spanish Parliament. The Cortez has approved the Gonzalez cabinet's decision on the staging of a nationwide referendum on 12 March on the question of the country's membership in NATO. The government's position on this issue was also approved by the votes of the deputies of the ruling party, which has a solid majority in parliament. Here is a Mayak commentary.

During the debates Prime Minister Gonzalez once again reaffirmed that his government is in favor of maintaining Spain's membership in the North Atlantic bloc, and claimed that such a policy is in the best interests of safeguarding the country's security. At the same time, the socialist cabinet is trying to sweeten the bitter pill it has offered the Spanish public, having renounced its previous anti-Nato course. Gonzalez is now promising not to try to secure Spain's inclusion in NATO's military structure, to prevent the deployment of nuclear weapons in the country and to reduce the U.S. military presence on Spanish soil.

All these promises are designed to dampen serious opposition to Spain's membership in the Atlantic alliance. NATO's opponents lately have once again been making loud noises, organizing large-scale demonstrations in a number of towns in the country. Despite an increased propaganda campaign by the Atlanticists, many Spaniards are convinced that non-participation in military-political blocs is the most reliable way of safeguarding Spain's security, its sovereignty and the opportunity of working effectively in the international arena in the interests of detente.

Arguments in favor of the country's withdrawal from the North Atlantic bloc are weighty and convincing. But the government and right-wing pro-NATO circles are brainwashing the population in an ever more intensive and refined way. And it seems as if they have had some success. A recent public opinion poll in Spain shows a certain shift to a mood which is favorable to the Atlanticists. It is hard to say at the moment how accurately the results of the polls reflect the correlation of forces between NATO's opponents and supporters. But one thing is clear: the struggle in the coming referendum will be a very acute one. There is also no doubt that Spanish Communists, left-wing trade union circles and all Spain's progressive, peace-loving public, in the time remaining before the plebiscite, will make every effort to ensure that its results reflect the negative attitude of the majority of Spaniards to the militarist alliance which is ruled by the United States.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS NORWAY'S NATO INVOLVEMENT

PM121703 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Soldatenko under the rubric "Pertinent Notes": "Masking Dangerous Plans"]

[Text] Norway once made its membership in the aggressive NATO bloc conditional on its so-called "base" and "nuclear" policy. Its thrust was the nondeployment of foreign troops and nuclear weapons on the country's territory in peace time. However, subsequently, under pressure from Washington, the Norwegian ruling circles gradually departed further and further from the principles of their "base" and then their "nuclear" policy.

This was reaffirmed yet again in the recent interview given to the newspaper AFTENPOSTEN by General Bull-Hansen, commander in chief of the Norwegian Armed Forces, and at his press conference for representatives of the Norwegian mass media. The general stated without beating around the bush that it is more essential than ever today to build up NATO's military presence in North Europe because in this region, particularly at sea, the correlation of forces has allegedly sharply changed in favor of the Soviet Union, as a result of which there has allegedly been an increase in the direct military threat to Norway from the USSR.

But General Bull-Hansen went no further than these unfounded assertions. This is understandable. It is hard to back up outright lies about the "threat from the USSR" with facts of any verisimilitude. At the same time reality attests that a threat to Nicaragua's security does exist. But it emanates exclusively from the United States and NATO.

Obediently following in the NATO militarist harness for many years, Norway has essentially now made its territory available without any restrictions to its bloc allies for aggressive preparations. Through various Norwegian ports and airfields heavy weaponry and combat equipment are being delivered to the country for the U.S. Marines expeditionary team and other NATO "reinforcements." For instance, dozens of 155 mm howitzers capable of using neutron warheads and thousands of tons of ammunition have now been stockpiled.

Norway's position in NATO's nuclear "set-up" -- Norwegian officials, although they are continuing to state that U.S. nuclear munitions will not be stockpiled in Norway in peace time, are nonetheless not only not ruling out the possibility of "inviting" to their territory foreign troops equipped with nuclear weapons but are even prepared to resort to the use of these weapons in a "crisis situation." The ground, naval, and air forces of the United States and its partners are using this country almost constantly for large-scale maneuvers which rehearse combat operations using conventional and nuclear means.

Despite protests from the public, U.S. and British ships with nuclear weapons on board have already made frequent "visits" to Norwegian shores and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons take part in NATO maneuvers on Norwegian territory. In addition, the network of radio navigation stations constructed on the Norwegian coastline and adjacent islands "feeds" appropriate information to U.S. surface ships and atomic submarines cruising the Atlantic with nuclear missiles targeted against the USSR. And to service the spy aircraft equipped with AWACS advance warning and control system, the Pentagon uses the Orland air base near the city of Trondheim. In the northern regions of Norway, near the borders with the USSR, a network of electronic espionage stations is in operation, collecting intelligence relating to Soviet warships and aircraft in the region of the Kola Peninsula and the Barents and White Seas. Routine control over these stations' activity is exercised not by the Norwegian but by the U.S. special services -- the National Security Agency and the CIA.

In his ornate expatiations about peace and the need to "strengthen security" in northern Europe, General Bull-Hansen did not even mention the new Soviet peace proposals for the total elimination of nuclear, chemical, and other weapons of mass annihilation throughout the world by the year 2000. It is perfectly clear to any unprejudiced person that no one will lose as a result of this program and everyone will gain. And the sooner this program begins to be implemented in practical deeds, the more secure life on our planet will become.

[Text] but you cannot call Bull-Hansen unprejudiced, however hard you try. He has done everything in his power to fulfill the social mandate of the West's military-industrial circles -- trying with the aid of an anit-Soviet force played out in front of journalists to lead his country's public as far as possible from approving the specific Soviet proposals. Instead, he is trying to throw them a portion of the latest stories about the mythical "Soviet military threat," "the hand of Moscow," and so forth. It is not disarmament the Soviet Union is calling for, he says, but only "the expansion of the presence of the NATO allied naval forces, above all by means of the U.S. Navy and partly by means of Britain, in the sea of Norway" which will help "maintain a low tension level in the region."

It should also be noted that the Norwegian ruling circles are seeking to avoid giving the United States and their other "senior colleagues" in the bloc a pretext for accusing Norway of being a disobedient pupil in the Atlantic class. The country has already earmarked nearly 50 million kroner for NATO's "Euromissile" program and was the first NATO member to increase its military budget by more than 3 percent a year. But the general has decided to display his special zeal: Come on, dear compatriots, Bull Hansen demanded, put more money on the barrel head or he cannot guarantee anyone defense from the "Moscow threat" he himself has thought up or "the conservation of the required combat capability and the ability to fulfill the tasks set the Norwegian Armed Forces" within the framework of NATO's demands.

The question arises: Is it fortuitous that north Europe has "suddenly" discovered "the Soviet military threats?" And precisely now that thanks to the latest Soviet peace initiatives there is a glimmer of hope for mankind of improving the international situation? Of course not. And General Bull-Hansen himself, in the heat of his anti-Soviet rhetoric, let the cat out of the bag: Without the existence of this threat neutralist trends will strengthen in the country with all ensuing political consequences."

That development of events is most undesirable for the NATO military-political leadership. After all, it is planning to expand militarist preparations on Norwegian territory still further. As we can see, these dangerous plans are also meeting with support from certain Norwegian circles. To conceal them from their people they are organizing propaganda shows like the anit-Soviet press conference held by General Bull-Hansen.

AL-'ATTAS DISCUSSES YEMEN SITUATION WITH PRESS

LD121509 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1445 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Aden, 12 Feb (TASS) -- Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist party [YSP], and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, speaking at a press conference here, touched on several problems concerning the domestic and political situation in the country. The YSP and the government, he said, will bring efforts to bear to overcome the consequences of January's events. We will strive to rebuild the YSP and strengthen its ideological, organizational, and political unity, as well as its ties with the masses.

Abu Bakr al-'Attas spoke highly of the friendly relations linking Democratic Yemen with countries of the socialist community. The South Yemen leader expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for their help in restoring normal life in the country.

YSP OFFICIAL RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR

GF121736 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Dr Yasin sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers has expressed his satisfaction with the development of relations between our country and the friendly Soviet Union, praising its unlimited support to our country. This took place during his meeting today with Soviet Ambassador in Aden Comrade Vladislav Pelrovich Zhukov. During the meeting he reviewed bilateral relations with the ambassador and the means to develop and bolster them. The meeting was attended by Comrade (Denar Karivrov), economic adviser at the Soviet Embassy in Aden.

ARISTOV MEETS WITH KUWAITI OIL MINISTER

PM121119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] A talk took place between B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade, and 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah, Kuwaiti minister of oil and industry. Questions of trade and economic relations between the two countries were examined and there was an exchange of opinions on the potential for their development. A. al-Marrash, Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in the USSR, took part in the talk.

TASS CITES IRAQI, IRANIAN BATTLE REPORTS

LD111828 Moscow TASS in English 1717 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, February 11 TASS -- Fierce fighting continued in the past 24 hours in the area of the border line river Shatt al-'Arab, says a communique of Iraq's High Military Command. Having arrested the enemy's advance, the Iraqi troops have been constantly attacking separate sections seized by the enemy during night time offensive. The Iranian side sustained large casualties and loses large volumes of equipment.

Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasim [al-Dulaymi] refuted allegations of the Iranian side that the Iraqi island Umm al Rasas on the Shatt al-'Arab river and the port of Al-Faw on the Persian Gulf coast had been seized. The advancing Iranian units have been routed in the area east of Basra, the INA news agency reports.

The enemy lost thousands men as killed and wounded, large numbers of people were taken prisoner. Planes and helicopters of the Iraqi Air Force flew on more than 280 combat missions over the southern section of the front.

Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz sent a message to the United Nations Security Council in connection with the Iranian offensive. Such actions, the document indicates, create a threat to Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, to the sovereignty and security of all Persian Gulf states.

Nicosia, February 11 TASS -- according to reports of the IRNA news agency, Iranian troops in the past day crossed the border-line river Shatt al-'Arab and seized the Iraqi island Umm al Rasas where oil facilities are situated. They also seized the port of Al-Faw. Iranian units, IRNA notes, have now cut the Basra-Al-Faw route and are not far from the border of Kuwait. Large volume of tanks, armoured carriers, artillery guns and other military equipment were destroyed during the fighting, IRNA reports. Thousands of Iraqi servicemen were killed and wounded. The Iranian military command uses the aviation for the support and development of the offensive of its troops on the Iraqi territory.

ARAB COUNTRIES DEMAND UN SESSION ON GULF WAR

LD130500 Moscow TASS in English 0449 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] New York February 13 TASS -- A group of Arab countries have demanded an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council in connection with a dramatic escalation of hostilities on the Iran-Iraq front. In a letter to the council president representatives of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Yemen Arab Republic, Tunisia, Jordan and Morocco as well as Iraq stressed that the situation as it stood represented a grave threat to international situation and security both in the region and in the world as a whole. The letter asked the Security Council to take urgent action to put an end to the war and settle the conflict by peaceful means in keeping with international law and the U.N. Charter.

SOVIET, YAR FRIENDHSIP GROUPS SIGN ACCORD

PM111035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Developing"]

[Text] On 10 February a plan was signed in Moscow for cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cooperation with Foreign Countries, the "Soviet Union-Yemen Arab Republic [YAR]" Friendship Society, and the "YAR-USSR" Friendship Society.

The document provides for the implementation of measures to mark notable dates in the lives of the two countries, Soviet days in the YAR and Yemeni days in the USSR, and the broad exchange of delegations, activists of the friendship societies, and photographic exhibitions. Familiarization with the working people's achievements in the economic and cultural field and the exchange of amateur arts collectives and artistes' troupes are also planned.

AFRICAN TRADE UNION UNITY GROUP MEETS

PM121425 Moscow TRUD in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 3

[TASS correspondent A. Suchkov dispatch "Cohesion Is the Guarantee of Success; Extraordinary Congress of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity Ends"]

[Text] Accra, 10 Feb -- The first extraordinary congress of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity [OATUU] has ended here. The OATUU Executive Committee was elected. D. Akumu (Kenya) was reelected secretary general of the trade union federation. 'Ali Ahman al-Nafishi (Libya) becomes chairman. Certain differences came to the fore during the forum's finance commission report debate. A political declaration was adopted on the results of the forum's proceedings. It exposes the racist South African regime's aggressive intrigues against the "Frontline" States and calls for the withdrawal of South African forces from Namibia and the occupied areas of the People's Republic of Angola.

The OATUU Executive Committee poured scorn on the U.S. Administration's course of open support for bandits of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorist group and on the U.S. military-economic blackmail applied to Libya. CIA subversive operations against independent African states, including Ghana, were angrily condemned.

Many congress delegates noted that Western powers, and primarily the United States, are trying to split the workers' movement in Africa and to gain control over the trade unions in a number of the continent's independent countries. The subversive activities of international reaction against sovereign African states are now more intensive than even before, J. Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] on Ghana, said. Steering a course toward the overthrow of the legitimate governments of Angola and Mozambique, the imperialist forces openly support UNITA and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement terrorist gangs. Throughout Africa imperialism is instigating acts of sabotage, terrorism, and provocation.

Simultaneously, the West is trying to undermine trade union unity in every way, the Ghanaian leader pointed out. Under these conditions the unity of the working people in the struggle for economic independence is particularly essential and it will help to also ensure political stability on the continent. The guarantee of Africa's successful advancement down the path of progress lies in the solidarity of the various countries' working class.

During the congress, the newspaper GHANAIAN TIMES pointed to the mounting threat of outside interference in the African trade union movement. Western trade union federations, in particular the Afro-American trade union center which is controlled by the AFL-CIO, seek to split Africa's working people, the newspaper emphasized. Promising financial "aid" to trade unions in a number of countries, they pursue purely selfish political aims. Such intrigues must be resolutely rebuffed and no effort must be spared to prevent a split in the OATUU -- the vanguard of the African working class.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL PRAISES CUBAN PARTY CONGRESS

PM111021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Fraternal Unity"]

[Text] The peoples in the socialist community's fraternal countries have embarked on a a new 5-year period of creative labor. They are facing major tasks of further building and accelerated advancement. The process of carrying out these tasks has begun in an atmosphere of political and labor enthusiasm, of growing creative initiative by the masses. Competition has spread widely for a fitting welcome of the scheduled Marxist-Leninist party congresses which will be held in many community countries this year.

Party congresses always leave a profound imprint on life in every socialist country and generate keen interest among all revolutionary and progressive forces in the world. Loyal to Lenin's bequest -- to approach their activity critically -- the ruling communist and workers parties at their supreme forums analyze the work that has been done, evaluate the achievements, reveal the causes of omissions and shortcomings, and set new heights to be scaled in socioeconomic development and new foreign policy tasks. This approach testifies to the political maturity and spiritual health and strength of fraternal parties, to their ability to solve the increasingly complex problems presented by life.

This was convincingly reaffirmed in Havana by the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], one of the militant and tested detachments of the worldwide army of communists. It summed up the results of the Cuban people's labor and struggle in the past years and mapped out clear prospects for the country's advance along the socialist path. The congress was held in an atmosphere of lofty activeness and buisnesslike efficiency, fearless revelation of existing shortcomings and defects, and creative quest for ways to improve organizational, ideological, political, and economic work. It was distinguished by the island of freedom communists' profoundly realistic awareness of their talks and responsibility for the further development of socialist Cuba, by their optimism and firm belief that the set plans will be implemented.

The Havana party forum was yet another confirmation of the growing might of world socialism and the triumph of communist ideals. It evolved into a vivid demonstration of the great strength of communists' unity and cohesion, of their loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian, socialist internationalism.

The Cuban revolution has traversed a glorious combat path and has scored weighty achievements. The heirs of their motherland's great patriot Jose Marti, the heroes of the storming of Moncada, of the cruise of Granma, and of the battles of Sierra Maestra, all their comrades-in-arms and followers, the veteran revolutionaries, and the new generation communists have things to be proud of just as they have things to consolidate and further develop. They established and upheld their motherland's independence and transformed it into a country with a fast-growing planned economy, modern educational system, and rapidly developing science, culture, and health care services.

Cuba justly bears the proud name island of freedom, where social equality has been implemented in reality and the working man's digntity is born aloft. The further the country progresses along the socialist path, the more profoundly the significance of the Cuban people's revolution for the fate of the liberation movement in Latin America and throughout the world is revealed.

The example of the island of freedom has convincingly shown that even a numerically small people, having liberated itself from oppression by imperialism, is capable -- relying on fraternal assistance from the socialist countries and from all revolutionary and progressive forces -- of upholding its independence, of overcoming economic backwardness, and of ensuring impressive progress in all spheres of life.

New large-scale plans and tasks lie ahead of the Cuban people. Taking into account both the general laws governing the building of socialism and the country's specific original conditions and traditions, together with the accumulated experience, the party has elaborated a realistic economic strategy. The Third PCC Congress approved the Basic Guidelines for the Republic's Socioeconomic Development in 1986-1990. Measures have been planned to build up the material and technical base, boost the economy's efficiency, and improve the planning and management of the national economy. Greater significance is attached to the intensification of production and the savings of raw and other materials and energy. Tasks have also been set in the sphere of the development of science, culture, health care services, and strengthening the country's defense capability.

The Republic of Cuba is an equal member of the socialist community. This offers it an opportunity for broad interaction with the fraternal countries in implementing major joint programs and for utilization of its friends' diverse experience. The Republic's scientists and specialists are actively joinint the implementation of the recently adopted Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress in CEMA Countries for the Period Through the Year 2000.

The participants in the third congress noted with gratification that, thanks to the close ties between the PCC and the CPSU and their extensive international work, Cuban-Soviet cooperation is increasing and yields tangible results in all spheres. Evidence of this can also be seen in the growth of mutual commodity turnover, which reached the impressive sum of R34 billion during the last 5-year plan period, in other words it increased 1.8 times within 5 years.

The Cuban Communists' devotion to the revolutionary cause has earned them profound respect in the ranks of the world communist and national liberation movement. It was by no means an accident that the congress was attended by about 200 delegates from fraternal parties and national-democratic and other progressive organizations. From the platform of the Havana forum they ardently and totally supported the Soviet comprehensive plan for peace and disarmament put forward in the 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The participants in the congress resolutely condemned the aggressive actions by U.S. imperialism and international reaction, creating tension in different parts of the planet.

The Soviet and Cuban peoples, who are friends and comrades-in-arms, are marching together toward a single great goal. Soviet people share the Cuban working people's gratification with the results of the Third PCC Congress and wish the communists and all working people in the island of freedom new accomplishments along the path of socialist creation.

SITUATION IN HAITI EVOKES VARIED COMMENTS

LD112140 Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] According to news agency reports, members of the new Haitian Cabinet have been sworn in in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince. The Cabinet was formed by the National Governing Council which came to power after the former dictator, Jean-Claude Duvalier, had fled the country. Mass demonstrations have taken place in Port-au-Prince against the inclusion in the new government of many military and political figures closely associated with the Duvalier regime.

A move against this has also been made by the Alliance of Haitian Patriotic Forces in exile. A spokesman for this Paris-based organization, (Julie Britie), has said Haiti needs a government that would meet the vital needs of the mass of the people. Our people, she stressed, will fight on vigorously for holding local, parliamentary, and presidential elections as soon as possible. (Julie Britie) said the former dictator had run away with about $450 million which he had embezzled in Haiti. Considering that the fortune amassed by the Duvalier family over almost 30 years of dictatorship is estimated at half a billion dollars, the total sum of what they have stolen from the Haitians exceeds the country's foreign debt which amounts to $800 million. Besides, the former dictator possesses substantial real estate in Western Europe, the United States, and Canada.

The coordinating Democratic Committee for the Liberation of Haiti, based in Mexico, has announced at a news conference that Duvalier should be brought to trial for heinous crimes against his people. The committee called on all nations to deny political asylum to the former dictator of Haiti who is now in France. Commenting on events in Haiti the Ecuador newspaper COMERCIO notes that Washington's actions to save Duvalier reflect a desire to prevent the situation in that Caribbean country from getting out of its control.

Jamaican, U.S. Actions

LD122251 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 12 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Washington is closely following events on Haiti. President Reagan has asserted that the United States did not plan Duvalier's escape, but merely allowed him to use their aircraft. However, the further one goes into the matter the more evident it becomes that the change of power on Haiti was the result of a plan worked out and put into practice by Washington. As go-betweens the U.S. Administration used its proteges on Jamaica. Jamaican Prime Minister Seaga and his representatives conducted direct talks with Duvalier. The United States interfered in the affairs of Haiti, fearing that an exacerbation of the internal political crisis on Haiti would result both in the overthrow of the Duvalier dictatorship and the strengthening of the position of left-wing forces.

Acting according to the U.S. way, the new Haiti Government has given an order to army units to disperse mass demonstrations. At the same time the authorities are hampering the return of thousands of political emigres to their homeland. Namphy, head of the government council, has said that permission for them to come will be given in strict accordance with the laws, and not at will. In other words, the authorities are not intending to grant entry visas to persons they find undesirable. Regular communication between Haiti and the world outside has not yet been restored. Only two special so-called charter flights have taken place. Some 500 foreigners left the country on them. The curfew continues on Haiti and soldiers patrol the street.

BRIEFS

CUBAN CONSULATE IN TASHKENT -- In accordance with the aggreement reached between authorities of the USSR and the Republic of Cuba, and as result of an exchange of letters between the Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in the USSR and the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a consulate of the Republic of Cuba was opened in Tashkent. The consulate is headed by Nelson Diaz Concepcion, third secretary of the embassy. [Text] [Tashkent SOVET UZBEKISTANI in Uzbek 22 Jan 86 p 1 LD]

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SOVIET EXPERTS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

LD131957 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 13 TASS -- A group of Soviet experts -- Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, senior official of the apparatus of the CPSU Central Committee Nikolay Shishlin and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Vitaliy Zhurkin, staying here, today met with leaders of the Soviet and American delegations to the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space armaments. Meetings were also held with the American delegation and the delegations of the socialist countries participating in the work of the conference on disarmament.

The main attention was paid to the large-scale plan of peace and disarmament, which was put forward in the statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet experts held at the Palace of Nations a press conference which was attended by representatives of mass media organs accredited in Geneva. The character of the questions raised by foreign journalists testifies to profound interest in the Soviet initiatives, which are being actively discussed by the political circles and broad public of different countries.

Good Chance of Accord

AU131648 Paris AFP in English 1631 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Geneva, Feb 13 (AFP) -- Two top Soviet officials today said there was a good chance of reaching a U.S.-Soviet agreement this year on medium-range missiles in Europe.

Progress in the ongoing negotiations here could lead to "very positive results" in a planned summit later this year between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the officials said.

The officials, Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the Moscow Institute of World Economic Studies and International Relations, and Vitaliy Zhurkin, deputy director of the Institute for the United States and Canada, were addressing a press conference here.

They said the proposal put forward by Mr. Gorbachev on January 15 was not linked to Mr. Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, a space-based anti-missile research program. But the Soviet proposal, they said, remained tied to a future agreement by Britain and France not to boost their strategic capabilities and to a U.S. pledge not to supply such arms to third countries.

Both conditions were brushed off yesterday as "unacceptable" by a group of U.S. senators visiting Geneva.

Mr. Primakov and Mr. Zhurkin were here to meet U.S. and Soviet negotiators at the disarmament talks, as well as the delegations attending the U.N. conference on disarmament.

The Soviet Union, they said, was ready to work out an identical agreement on missiles in Asia "on condition the United States does not increase its strategic nuclear capabilities on the Asian borders of the Soviet Union."

CHERVOV DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT IN INTERVIEW

DW131001 Berlin ARD Television Network in German 2200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Interview with Soviet Colonel General Nikolay F. Chervov by Lothar Loewe, SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG correspondent Josef Joffe, and STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG correspondent Walther Stuetzle on the "Fernseh Pressekonferenz" program in Berlin; questions in German, answers in Russian with superimposed German translation -- recorded]

[Text] [Loewe] Good evening ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the SFB [Sender Freies Berlin] television press conference. In our studio we have as guest Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, member of the Soviet general staff, where he is a department chief and specialist on weapons and disarmament problems. As guest we have Josef Joffe, foreign policy editor of SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, and Walther Stuetzle of STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, a military expert and former chief of the defense ministry's planning staff.

General Chervov, the Gorbachev proposal envisages that the intermediate-range missiles, that is the Pershing and cruise missiles, should be eliminated in Western Europe simultaneously with the 250 Soviet SS-20 missiles in the European part of Russia. How will that be done? Do you want to move all the SS-20 missiles into a big square; will they be scrapped there, so to speak; and is it to happen in the presence of Western observers? What will then happen to the SS-20 missiles you have deployed east of the Urals, which are targeted at Asia, but which can be removed or targeted at Europe?

[Chervov] Gentlemen, an important feature of Gorbachev's statement, a feature of the Soviet program to rid the world of nuclear weapons, is its European aspect. The European aspect envisages the liquidation -- I stress -- the liquidation of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles in the European area. We consider parts of the Soviet Union to be European territory, not just the Ural and Trans-Ural area. These are the limits from which missiles from the European area can reach the territory of the Soviet Union; it is about the 80th longitude, where intermediate-range missiles are deployed in the European area. All the missiles in the European area of the Soviet Union as well as the U.S. missiles in Europe must be liquidated, according to Mikhail Gorbachev's program. The liquidation is to take place in the first phase. We do not plan to deploy the missiles in some other place, not in the East nor the West. They will be destroyed, destroyed under careful and reliable control, national and international control, including on-site inspections. There will be no traps, no obstacles, no deception. The missiles will be liquidated. That will be announced to all.

As to the Soviet Union's missiles deployed in our east, they are behind the 80th longitude. They are intermediate-range missiles facing the U.S. intermediate-range nuclear weapons and are grouped to the east of the country. They have no relation at all to the European area. They do not reach the European countries. Now the U.S. side says, for example -- and some people in Western Europe also say -- that those missiles can easily be moved to Western Europe. However, they have another purpose. We cannot deploy them just anywhere. That is not why they are in the east.

If one accepted such so-called logic, I could also ask you and the U.S. side: Just now the U.S. side has begun the production of about 900 Pershings as planned; what are the Pershings for? What is their purpose on U.S. territory? None. So they are also planned to be deployed in Europe. They can be deployed in Europe in a shorter time. Therefore, the deployment of our missiles from the east to the west and from the west to the east is not a serious question.

I would like to finish this thought. The European aspect of the task we are posing now with a view to liquidating U.S. and Soviet missiles in the European area is a very important basic issue. If we were to solve this problem, the European problem of intermediate-range missiles, it would be a decisive step toward nuclear disarmament.

[Loewe] Did I understand you correctly that you agree that the Soviet SS-20 missiles will be destroyed under international control?

[Chervov] Yes, naturally, including inspection.

[Stuetzle] May I ask something more? The destruction of the missiles would mean progress as such. However, just the destruction of the missiles would not suffice. What about the infrastructure belonging to the missiles, that is the launching pads. Who will control the destruction of the launching pads and who will guarantee that new missiles will not be built. In other words, who will control the discontinuation of production?

[Chervov] When I speak of the destruction of missiles, I have in mind not only the missiles themselves, but also the launching pads and infrastructure belonging to these missiles. You know that we have unilaterally taken 27 missiles out of combat preparedness. Mikhail Gorbachev stated that a part of our missiles has been dismantled. The entire infrastructure belonging to these missiles has been dismantled, liquidated. The U.S. side knows it very well. When I speak of the destruction of missiles, launching pads, and other stationary installations belonging to these missiles, it will all take place under international control.

[Joffe] A somewhat political question now. By the way, it is not quite certain whether the Americans are producing 900 Pershing missiles at present. As regards politics, Gorbachev surprisingly, now offers what we call the zero solution, that is no missiles on both sides. This solution could have been achieved by the Soviet Union 6 years ago. That was the official position of Western governments. Why does this offer come so late? Were those people on our side right who said that the Soviet Union will seriously negotiate with us only when we have begun to rearm? Why after 6 years when it was possible earlier when we offered it to you?

[Chervov] If you remember the history of negotiations, you will come to another conclusion and you would not ask this question. I will recall the history for you. On 6 October 1979, that was 6 or even 7 years ago, Leonid Brezhnev made a proposal in Berlin prior to the NATO council's December session on the two-track decision, saying that the Soviet Union was prepared to sit down at the negotiating table and that it was prepared to decrease the number of its intermediate-range missiles if the two-track decision was not made. Do you remember this proposal? You do? All remember it.

Why was it not accepted? Because NATO and the United States wanted, come what may, to achieve the two-track decision. They achieved it.

[Joffe] I remember this speech somewhat differently. I do not believe that Brezhnev offered to destroy all SS-20 missiles targeted on Europe at that time. However, I find it very nice that after 6 years the Soviet Union has reached the point we achieved 6 years ago. I am very happy about it.

[Chervov] I would like to continue. You certainly know our proposal to liquidate all intermediate-range missiles and tactical nuclear missiles in Europe. We made this proposal on the very first day of the negotiations.

We proposed to free Europe from intermediate-range missiles and tactical nuclear weapons. Such a proposal has been made and it is still on the negotiating table. It is so: The Soviet Union proposed such a solution on the very first day.

[Joffe] Both sides, the West and the East, agree that armament should be limited and decreased. Modalities are the problem, controls are the problem. You or Mr Gorbachev say that the proposal we have just discussed cannot exist if the Americans will not discontinue their preparatory work for SDI. However, the problem exists here that the Soviet Union is working on space weapon systems, at least on their research and development. Mr Kvitzinskiy recently introduced the term in Bonn that the Americans should be permitted to continue basic research in the field of SDI. Is that correct and what does that mean?

[Chervov] At present the U.S. side has embarked on the line of cosmic armament, that is the transformation of the arms race into space, the development of a missile defense system on a wide range with elements of cosmic bases. The Soviet Union is categorically against the so-called SDI. It is not against it because of fear of SDI. No. We are against SDI because the gravest consequences for peace could emanate from this. We are unable to get the arms race on earth under control. Now the U.S. side wants to stage an arms race in space. Once an aggressive cosmic weapon has been created and deployed in space, the uncontrolled arms race will have begun. Therefore, the Soviet Union demands that aggressive cosmic weapons be banned in all phases, including scientific research work.

It is said in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement that we are prepared to set up respective controlling laboratories together with the U.S. side. However, laboratories not for the production of cosmic weapons, but for the ban of aggressive cosmic weapons, in order to mutually ensure that neither the United States nor the Soviet Union will produce such weapons.

The U.S. side also proposes to set up laboratories, but it gives the term another meaning. It wants some sort of agreements on the production of cosmic weapons to exist between us so that no side can overtake the other. That is what it is.

[Joffe] Honestly speaking, I do not understand the Soviet indignation. As far as we know, the Soviet Union has been working for 15 years and more on similar or identical systems such as particle weapons, laser weapons. Moreover, the Soviet Union has a fully working antimissile system, it has a fully working antisatellite system. I do not believe the Americans propose to begin a new arms race, it began long ago. The Soviet Union has been fully participating in it for 15 or more years. Or is that not so?

[Chervov] We are engaged in basic research. We do not contest that. Let us say, basic research in the field of lasers. That cannot be prohibited. We do not demand it either; that is logical. This is being done in the field of laser technology in the FRG, Great Britain, and in other countries. What is involved is the problem that lasers should not become a weapon. The Soviet Union is not engaged in any work to produce a laser weapon that would be brought into space to threaten mankind from the cosmos. Therefore, we do not speak of banning basic research. However, we are against targeted research aimed at the production of aggressive cosmic weapons.

[Stuetzle] General, so-called experts in the West say that the Soviet Union already has destroyed space satellites with laser weapons. The four of us sitting here can neither prove this nor the opposite.

However, if General Secretary Gorbachev now proposes to permit research work, but not transformation into weapons, he is offering a degree of control demanding that all Soviet laboratories, all laboratories, all universities, including Krasnoyarsk and its giant radar installations be opened. Two questions now. Is that acceptable to the Soviet social system? In what time, do you think, can this desirable aim be achieved?

[Chervov] What shall I tell you in connection with this question? Let us assume that I have overtaken you in the production of laser weapons. Let us assume such a hypothetical situation. I am ahead of you. Suddenly I suggest to you to destroy the laser weapon. You are lagging behind. What conclusion is obvious? Naturally, you must agree to destroy this weapon. That is the current situation. If the Soviet Union is leading in the production of weapons and we suggest destruction, why should the other side that is lagging behind not agree? Even more so because we will open these laboratories.

As regards the laser weapon, in the West one refers to it; that in the Soviet Union, in the Staryi Shagan area, a laser installation has been set up that can be used as a laser weapon. That is disinformation. At the Staryi Shagan shooting range there really is a laser testing installation used for experiments and the location of cosmic objects, using the laser for the exact definition of the parameter of cosmic objects. We do not contest that. The U.S. side knows it exactly. However, this is not a laser weapon. The U.S. side knows it very well. However, in order to confuse the people, the Americans pretend it is a laser weapon. That is disinformation.

[Joffe] May I get back to the question? The question is that Gorbachev has offered to open everything. Our question is: What an effect will that have on the Soviet social system; namely, suddenly doing something that the Soviet Union has never permitted in 50 or 60 years? Do you really believe this can happen; namely, to open a closed society that much?

[Chervov] Come now, our statement has been thoroughly considered, it is very balanced and responsible. All the Soviet leadership says, all that has been said in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement is real, everything can be implemented and will be. There was never a difference between our words and actions. Therefore, one can say in full responsibility to all the people that all this is real.

[Stuetzle] General, nobody among us here thinks little of this progressive idea of Soviet foreign policy. However, it is so far only an idea. Our questions only pertain to the concrete action, the implementation of the program. What will the modalities be? A much simpler matter now. Why, for example, has the Soviet Union invited maneuver observers to the Soviet Union only three times since the signing of the Helsinki CSCE act -- you as a general staff member know it. We have extended invitations to more than 30 maneuvers in the FRG. These are concrete signs indicating that one is really interested in building confidence. I do not want to play Gorbachev's proposals down, I just ask about concrete action.

[Chervov] I agree with you that there is a lack of confidence among us at present. We need confidence from both sides. We must approach each other to strengthen confidence. As regards the maneuver invitations, you have inaccurate information. I know exactly how many people we have invited to maneuvers and how many maneuver announcements have been made. Your information that we have extended only three invitations is inaccurate. According to the Helsinki Final Act, any side does not invite observers from all 35 European states. That is not necessary. Let us say we will have a maneuver in Caucasia. We have announced the maneuver. Let us say we can invite maneuver observers from Turkey, Italy, Greece, Spain, and Portugal -- that is, from the region where the maneuver will take place.

I must tell you that no FRG representatives will be invited by us to such maneuvers. This maneuver will take place far from the FRG. If a maneuver will take place in central Europe, FRG representatives will be invited.

I will tell you something else. This question was discussed with Helmut Schmidt long ago. When Helmut Schmidt was in Moscow and talked with Defense Minister Ustinov, Ustinov said: Mr Chancellor, at present we mutually invite only military attaches to maneuvers. Let us extend this. Why do we invite only military attaches? Send us Bundeswehr representatives, general staff representatives. Schmidt said: Okay, I will instruct my defense minister, Mr Apel, accordingly. It so happened that one year later I met Helmut Schmidt and Apel also. I asked Mr Apel whether he had received such instructions. No, he said, there were none. Then I asked Helmut Schmidt why he told it in such a way to his defense minister without giving him instructions. Let us achieve more confidence and mutually invite each other to maneuvers. I do not want to say what Helmut Schmidt answered. At any rate, this idea was not implemented. It was not our fault. Confidence must be achieved from both sides. One says that one shakes hands with two hands.

[Stuetzle] Mr General, incidentially, I know the story you are talking about very well and agree that the fact that it went wrong cannot be blamed on you alone. However, it also cannot be blamed on the Federal Republic alone. The question resulting from that is...

[Chervov, interrupting] I have blamed no one. I only gave an example.

[Stuetzle] Yes, but I know the story very well and it is a nice coincidence for us to talk about something whose details we cannot fully reveal to our television audience. However, the question resulting from that is: Why do we not improve that in the future? Why should it not be possible for cadets of the Soviet Army to study at the Bundeswehr leadership academy and why does the Soviet Army not invite Bundeswehr student officers to study at the Frunze academy for a year?

[Chervov] That requires great confidence, very great confidence. Obviously, we have not yet reached a state that would allow us to resolve your problem.

[Loewe] You are certainly right. We must begin with confidence, in other words, with many small steps. Considering the Gorbachev proposal, what do you think would be the first step to begin with?

[Chervov] Of the whole range of nuclear disarmament problems proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, I would place the reduction of nuclear explosions first. Nuclear explosions must be discontinued. That is a real step toward disarmament. I believe all realistically thinking people and the public in general understand what the halt of nuclear tests means for confidence building. An absolute majority of the public advocates that. They are aware that the Soviet Union has not found it at all easy to extend the moratorium. What the U.S. side has said -- that it depends on the season, that the Soviet Union conducts nuclear explosions only in the summer and not in the winter, and that the Soviet Union has conducted more nuclear explosions than the United States -- all that is not true. All that is an attempt to deceive the public. You could say directly that the U.S. refusal to join our moratorium has to do with the fact that it does not want an end to the nuclear arms race. Therefore, the first step is the halt of nuclear explosions.

The second step. Our program is realistic and must be studied now in the negotiations, in the negotiations on nuclear weapons in space that are conducted in Geneva by Kvitsinskiy and Karpov as well as, on the U.S. side, by Kampelman, Tower, and Glitman.

However, regrettably the U.S. side has only shrugged so far. It is not ready to respond to our proposals. There are no instructions from Washington.

[Joffe] You addressed the problem of confidence. I found it interesting for you to say it was still too early to start something like an exchange of cadets for studies at our academies. I am asking myself, if there is not enough confidence for such small actions, what makes General Secretary Gorbachev promise the abolition of all nuclear weapons within the next 15 years? How is that supposed to work?

[Chervov] I do not think the nuclear disarmament program can be related to an exchange of cadets. That is not the problem.

[Joffe] Confidence.

[Chervov] Yes, it is a matter of confidence. The only thing I can tell you is the fact that in our view the Soviet program is absolutely realistic. It is no utopia and no fiction. Its reality consists of the fact that we have now proposed concrete stages time limits, orders of succession, procedures, and ranges for the liquidation of nuclear weapons. I must tell you that the Soviet Union and the United States have a great deal of experience in working out methods for the practical destruction of nuclear weapons and control. All that shows that the measures for the liquidation of nuclear weapons are feasible. In addition, everthing will be under strict national and international control. Therefore, we must approach each other, if only by small steps, for mutual confidence. And you are right here; we will probably not begin with the cadets. Let us put an end to nuclear explosions. That will creat confidence. Let us study the nuclear disarmament program. That will create confidence. Those are the fundamental problems.

[Joffe] So you think eliminating nuclear weapons is easier than exchanging cadets.

[Chervov] Perhaps it is even easier.

[Joffe] Hm.

[Chervov] We are not dealing with the exchange of cadets or academy students. They will eventually be dealt with. That is no problem. We have never considered it a problem.

[Loewe] Mr General, I have an entirely different question that you as an army man and general staff member, can certainly answer also. Why does the continental power, the Soviet Union, have such a large fleet?

[Chervov] To answer your question, one must know very well what the U.S. naval forces represent, what the NATO states' naval forces represent, and what the Soviet naval forces represent. Before 1960, the U.S. side did not talk about the Soviet naval forces. They thought they were a coastal fleet without any influence on the international situation. Now the U.S. side has begun to talk about the Soviet naval forces, because our naval forces have analogous warships and analogous weapons. That means we have come closer to the U.S. war fleet. Nobody disputes that we have efficient naval forces. However, the Americans exaggerate things quite a bit regarding the Soviet Navy. Let me give you some figures to prove that. The U.S. warships displace about 4 million tons of water, the Soviet Union's about 3 million. That is one of the reasons why people closely regard the Soviet naval fleet and totally disregard the U.S. fleet.

[Loewe] But does the Soviet Union really need such a large fleet for its security as a continental power?

[Chervov] The Soviet Union is not only a continental power. It is also a military naval power.

[Stuetzle] That brings us to another question, Mr General. Assuming that General Secretary Gorbachev's idea to eliminate all nuclear weapons on earth by the year 2000 could be implemented, what about the Warsaw Pact's superiority in conventional weapons; the costs of which are a much higher burden in the East and West than the costs of nuclear weapons?

[Chervov] I am ready to discuss that problem with any NATO experts, military experts. There is no superiority. If you talk about superiority, I must ask you questions. On NATO's side the French and Spanish Armed Forces are left out of account. Why? On NATO's side the stockpiled means of mobilization are left out of account. Why? On NATO's side only those forces are taken into account which are under General Rogers' command. However, that is not all. There are other forces under national command.

[Stuetzle] Mr General, if I may interrupt you -- it has always been a mistake for the NATO states to allow the Soviet Union to use this easy, propagandistic argument. It is true that NATO does not officially take the French and Spanish Armed Forces into account. However, even the Soviet Union (?accepts) the information by the very renowned London Institute for Strategic Studies...

[Chervov, interrupting] That is not correct, they must be taken into account.

[Loewe] That leads to a very clear imbalance in the Warsaw Pact's favor. I have a very brief question and would like a brief answer. In Gorbachev's proposal the Chinese capabilities are not taken into account at all. Why not?

[Chervov] No, that is not quite correct. Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal -- and that is a special quality of our nuclear disarmament program -- concerns all nuclear powers, including China. It is another thing that the first stage essentially concerns the Soviet Union and the United States. The second stage -- the liquidation of the tactical weapons -- concerns the other states' tactical weapons. The third stage -- after 1995 -- marks the beginning of the so-called strategic weapons of third countries, including Britain, France, and China. China is not excluded.

[Stuetzle] May I ask you another question?

[Chervov] Of course.

[Stuetzle] In March 1977, Foreign Minister Gromyko asked the then President Carter whether he was ready to take care of the British and French weapons in the sense of reduction. Carter answered with the question: Are you ready to take care of the Chinese weapons? Gromyko changed the subject. [Laughter] Is the situation different today? Are you courageous enough to talk to the Chinese about their nuclear weapons?

[Chervov] There has been no talk about negotiations. The Soviet Union submitted a program on the liquidation of nuclear weapons. We also do not talk about negotiations with Britain and France. That is not at issue. Mikhail Gorbachev also said in Paris that there is talk about the possibility of these states discussing their nuclear capbilities -- he used the term discussion, not negotiations. Perhaps these discussions will eventually deepen and flow into negotiations. That is possible. So there is no change of position, not even regarding Britain and France.

[Loewe] Mr General, thank you very much for having come to us. We hope that we will really advance on the road to disarmament. Thank you very much.

SAGDEYEU OUTLINES SOVIET RESPONSE TO SDI

PM121507 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Interview with Academician R. Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research, by correspondent Yu. Knyaze: "What Lurks Behind the SDI Concept?"]

[Text] President Reagan, the Pentagon and NATO generals, and some U.S. politicians and statesmen are trying to convince the public in the United States and in West European countries that the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) is dictated by concern for human civilization and for its security; that the United States has no intention of seeking military superiority, but only intends to create a purely defensive "antimissile shield." What is the "Strategic Defense Initiative"? Correspondent Yu. Knyazev put this question to Academician R. Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research.

"There is a path that leads directly to the deliverance of mankind from the threat of nuclear war," R. Sagdeyev said. "It is the path of consistently ridding the world of nuclear weapon stockpiles. This path demands maximum political wisdom and resolve on the part of each of the participants in military confrontation. It is this approach to the elimination of the danger of a devastating nuclear war that our country has consistently advocated. This is confirmed by the comprehensive program for the elimination of the means of mass destruction which was recently put forward by M.S. Gorbachev.

"But if one is setting out to preserve nuclear arsenals, the arms race, and the volumes of military orders received by the military industry, then, of course, this aim is best served by the 'star wars' program. It is already clear that the implementation of this plan will require the kind of funds never before spent on armaments.

"The nuclear genie was let out of the U.S. bottle in 1945 and it can only be chased back into the bottle by a renunciation of nuclear weapons, not by new technological genies released into space.

"The supporters of SDI give assurances that nuclear weapons and stockpiles of bombs can be rendered harmless and obsolete by a defense system which, allegedly, would be able to parry every missile and every warhead in the event of a nuclear conflict. As a physicist involved with modern space technology, I can say that it is a sheer utopia. In fact, even assuming (this is absolutely impossible in practice) that the destruction of 99 percent of the warheads in flight is guaranteed, the remainder will be quite sufficient to ensure a destructive effect equivalent to thousands of Hiroshimas. Yet there is a considerable number of specific ways of overcoming this defensive shield.

"So all this is nothing more than an illusion, although an extremely dangerous illusion. Indeed, instead of directing the quest for a way out of the nuclear impasse into a political channel, onto the path of talks, the 'star wars' program could cause a dangerous delay in the solution of this question, perhaps not until future generations come along. Meanwhile, the widening of the arms race and its transfer to space may make the process irreversible and a return to the negotiating table impossible. That is why our country is pressing so hard to prevent an arms race in space."

[Knyazev] Are there scientists in the West who are aware of the danger of the arms race?

[Sagdeyev] Yes, and their number is growing.

Their conclusions are based on serious scientific analysis, utilizing the achievements of modern physics and laser and computer technology. They are well acquainted with the technological options being proposed by the advocates of "star wars." Computer software experts say the computer system controlling the strategic defense would have to handle such an unprecedented quantity of information that there would inevitably be a vast number of errors. Usually, full-scale tests are carried out when developing programs for computer systems, even much more modest systems, for use in military and civilian technology. Only through tests is it possible to identify and eliminate software errors. But in the "star wars" program full-scale tests would mean a nuclear catastrophe.

[Knyazev] And what is the opinion of sober-minded military specialists?

[Sagdeyev] Military strategy experts, including a number of well-known former U.S. military men, have more than once expressed their view that the overall strategic equilibrium in the world, based on competition between offensive and defensive weapons, including space weapons, is extremely unstable. One of the main flaws in this strategic opposition became apparent back in the sixties: It is that competition between offensive and defensive weapons would lead to an unlimited buildup of nuclear arsenals. The proposed space deployment adds a whole series of strategic instabilities of its own. After all, space-based elements of an antimissile defense can themselves become extremely dangerous strike weapons.

[Knyazev] In their SDI propaganda, the advocates of "star wars" say that implementation of the program would lead to progress in civilian spheres of technology and that all the expense would be recouped...

[Sagdeyev] Yes, they do put forward these arguments. Of course, they may be spin-offs from particular military programs. In the event of SDI, strategic stability would be the first victim. But any benefit from the "star wars" program in terms of peaceful applications is very problematical. The point is that the technology needed for the destruction of remote military targets demands the creation of specialized, and I would even say extravagant, technical facilities. For example, who would need, for industrial and technological purposes, to create a superlaser capable of setting objects on fire at a distance of hundreds of kilometers and more?

[Knyazev] What would the socialist community's response be if the "star wars" program was intensively developed in the capitalist countries?

[Sagdeyev] First of all, I want to say the "star wars" plans will not work even if they spend many billions of dollars. But military technology could be improved in the course of the program's elaboration and this would require certain retaliatory measures based on the use of, among other things, new technologies and new ideas. One of the most effective forms of retaliation is the use of so-called countermeasures, that is, methods which would sharply reduce the effectiveness of the space elements of "star wars" and immediately demonstrate to the originators of the concept that their efforts are futile. Potential countermeasures of this kind have been discussed by scientists and military strategists. They include a relatively varied collection of methods that are far cheaper than SDI. Our country is in favor of the solution of all problems by political means and has demonstrated this in practice on more than one occasion.

PETROVSKIY EVALUATES MERITS OF GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

PM291623 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[V. Petrovskiy comment under the rubric "Interview Via Teleprinter": "The Art of Finding a Common Language" -- first three paragraphs are SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA introduction]

[Text] The following report has arrived at the editorial office:

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou has declared that "the USSR's new initiatives are some of the most positive steps that could be taken in the present situation."

We have asked Vladimir Federovich Petrovskiy, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary and member of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry Collegium, to comment on this.

This report is not fortuitous. The disarmament plan put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has evoked a broad response in the world. Summing up all the proposals contained in this document, one could say that it defines the shortest routes to, and specifies very precise landmarks for moving in the direction of, limitation in the most dangerous spheres of the arms race. The statement is not just a declaration. It contains a realistic platform for specific and resolute action.

The essence of the Soviet approach to international problems is the following: Security is now created by political rather than military means. Yet this can be achieved only by means of talks. And I would like to particularly emphasize -- fruitful talks.

It is often argued in the West that diplomatic talks are an art. This is beyond question, of course. But when the reasoning begins to resemble the concept of "art for art's sake," or in the language of diplomats "talks for talks' sake," then we resolutely reject it. Today it is important not just to set the whole system of bilateral and multilateral talks in motion, but, most importantly, to ensure that they yield as much as possible.

No matter what question concerning international relations we focus on, it can be settled only be means of dialogue. Take for example the problem of delivering mankind for nuclear weapons. The questions that could be tackled during the first stage of nuclear disarmament as set out in the statement fit organically within the range of problems that are currently being discussed in Geneva at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms which have resumed.

Dialogue is also needed to end all nuclear tests and thus to block this channel of improving nuclear weapons. While appealing to the United States to join the moratorium on all nuclear explosions which we have declared unilaterally, we also favor the resumption of the tripartite talks (between the USSR, the United States, and Britain) on a general and complete nuclear weapons test ban. We are also prepared, within the framework of the Geneva Disarmament Conference which resumes its work 4 February, to open multilateral talks with the participation of all nuclear powers on banning nuclear tests. We support the nonaligned countries' proposal to hold consultations with a view to extending the 1963 Moscow treaty to include underground tests.

We are in favor of sharply increasing the yield of the Vienna talks whose next round begins on 30 January. In Vienna, as is well known, a no less important task, the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces in central Europe, is being discussed.

Now let us turn to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe which has resumed its work. Here, too, we have put forward a number of far-reaching, constructive proposals which make it possible to rapidly eliminate obstacles that have long been blocking progress there.

The questions that are being discussed in Vienna, Stockholm, and Geneva are, in one way or another, connected with the problem of verification. We are in favor of specific verification measures forming an integral part of every accord on arms limitation and disarmament.

U.S. ENVOY PRESENTS 'GARBLED LOGIC' ON ARMS ISSUE

LD141129 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Breaking official silence on the Soviet disarmament plan advanced by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15th January, Donald Lowitz, the chief of the United States delegation in Geneva on Tuesday told the 40 nation disarmament conference that a comprehensive treaty on banning chemical weapons remained Washington's top priority. Here's some details:

At the same time, Mr Lowitz dismissed a series of interim measures leading to a comprehensive ban contained in the Soviet program, such as an agreement on a multilateral basis not to transfer chemical weapons to anyone and not to deploy them in the territories of other states. Here's a sample of logic provided by the chief of the United States delegation at the Geneva conference: It might seem easier to postpone resolution of the difficult issues, including verification, to a later time and to make progress on the less difficult matters, but such an approach would create a false impression -- that sufficient momentum has been generated to sweep all obstacles aside in the interests of concluding an agreement.

Well, we understand that Mr Lowitz and other officials who are dragging their feet on the Soviet plans would love to disarm tomorrow, to have no nuclear, chemical, or other weapons, but if this country proposed such a thing they would start chuckling about how unrealistic it is, that it's pie in the sky, and that disarmement, being a very serious matter, requires time and interim measures to facilitate progress, build trust, and so on. But when the Soviet Union proposes to speed up movement with the help of interim measures, it creates a false impression of progress and they're rejected.

The Soviet plan covers a period of 15 years, that is, by the year 2000, and is divided into three clearly defined stages. When United States officials say no to Soviet offers they wind up in a somewhat awkward situation because of their garbled logic. They tell us they want to build new weapons in order to get rid of them. When invited to get rid of arms, they cannot do so because they haven't built those weapons yet. They've just started a multibillion program of America's chemical rearmament. Its thrust is on a new generation of such weapons, known as binary nerve gas shells and bombs -- those things that Mr Lowitz would love to ban tomorrow without any interim measures.

REAGAN ADDRESS AIMS AT 'IMPERIAL POLICY'

PM110951 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Review by V. Pustov: "On the Basis of Hackneyed Stereotypes," under the general heading "Military-Political Review"]

[Text] It seemed to be an act of divination when the LOS ANGELES TIMES predicted that senators and members of the House of Representatives would be stunned by President R. Reagan's "State of the Union" address. This is what actually happened. Many legislators, not to mention ordinary Americans, to whom peace and international security are dear, had good cause to feel alarmed. It did not go unnoticed by them, for example, that not a word was said in the message from the master of the White House about the program put forward in the 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to totally eliminate nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000. This is a program which has aroused benevolent responses throughout the world and which, if accepted by the U.S. Administration, would, to quote the Boston newspaper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, begin a new chapter in the history of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union at the end of the 20th century.

Here the question arises: Which chapter in Soviet-U.S. relations would the President and Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, together with members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, like to open, the latter having almost simultaneously issued statements and reports on the Pentagon budget for fiscal year 1987 and on "the U.S. military position in the world"? Some of their anti-Soviet statements have a whiff of the bad memory of the "cold war." They attempt to validate their demands to continue increasing military expenditure and building up arms with a series of hackneyed anti-Soviet stereotypes and totally false accusations that the Soviet Union "strives for domination."

The President said he will insist on a "modest, but constant increase" in military appropriations. The real essence of the President's "modesty" has already been reflected in the fact that, under the present administration, U.S. military expenditure has increased more than 1.5 times. P. Kirk, chairman of the U.S. Democratic Party National Committee, noted that the policy of inflating military expenditure pursued by the present administration has meant that, over the 5 years it has been in power, the U.S. national debt (according to official data, it has reached $2 trillion) has increased as much as it did "during the time in power by all previous presidents, from G. Washington to J. Carter." And it is under these conditions that appropriations for military purposes have been demanded to the tune of $320.3 billion for the next fiscal year -- for the Pentagon, the Department of Energy, and other departments. It is proposed to allocate $311.6 billion to the Pentagon, which is almost 12 percent more than the sum allocated in the current fiscal year.

What, one asks, is the purpose of the planned military appropriations? The answer can be found in disclosures by the Pentagon chief. It is "to create an up-to-date military potential capable of ensuring the fulfillment of all of our obligations in the world...with an acceptable degree of risk." And to implement the "star wars" program disguised as a defense program.

Two kinds of measures are implied by "obligations" and "risk." First, those directly connected with the doctrine of "neoglobalism." This doctrine envisages provoking "low-intensity conflicts" everywhere in the world. This verbal camouflage conceals planned aggressive actions on various scales. "We must decide," the Pentagon chief lectures, "what form interference must take and, if we decide to intervene, by what means and with the aid of which organs."

The occupation of small, defenseless Grenada by U.S. troops, the drive to stifle Nicaragua, and provocation by U.S. naval forces along Libyan shores -- these are just some graphic illustrations of how this is decided and performed.

The draft Pentagon budget for fiscal year 1987 envisages increasing the numerical strength of U.S. Armed Forces by almost 14,000 and that of the reserves and the National Guard by 52,000, and acquiring hundreds of new M-1 Abrams tanks, infantry combat vehicles, armored personnel carriers, 4 strike submarines, 2 cruisers, 3 missile destroyers, 384 F-15, F-16, F-18A fighter planes, and so forth. It is planned to strengthen the potential of rapid deployment interventionist forces.

Second (in reckoning, but not in significance), measures are being planned to ensure a quantitative build-up in first-strike nuclear means. The question is being raised, for example, of creating 100 MX ICBMs with dividing warheads [MIRVs] (10 warheads each with a capacity of 600 kilotons). The means are being provided for building another Ohio-type nuclear missile submarine carrying 24 Trident-1 missiles (8 warheads each with a capacity of 100 kilotons on each missile).

The draft Pentagon budget also outlines the creation, development, and deployment of other nuclear weapon offensive systems: Midgetmen ICBMs, new strategic bombers, Pershing-2 medium-range ballistic missiles, and cruise missiles. In a word, everything aimed at fulfilling a dangerous, albeit impossible dream -- to gain military superiority.

In the United States, as in other countries, last week was overshadowed by the Challenger catastrophe. Suffering deeply from the tragedy, people continue to ask many questions; not only about the purely technical causes of the tragedy. The explosion of one of the four U.S. multi-use spaceships has particularly clearly highlighted and emphasized the truly global dimensions of the threat with which the "star wars" program is fraught for all mankind. "President Reagan," the Indian newspaper THE TELEGRAPH writes, "must realize the danger that lies in his 'Strategic Defense Initiative.' The Challenger catastrophe destroyed several human lives. A failure in the 'star wars' system could bring down a nuclear winter on the whole of mankind." Is this not the reason why access to correct information on the real causes, consequences, and persons responsible for the catastrophe is barred, to quote THE WASHINGTON POST, by an "iron curtain"?

Washington would like to keep a great deal secret. The ominous link, for example, between the space shuttle program, of which the ill-fated Challenger flight was a part, and the program to militarize space. R. Perle, assistant defense secretary, claims that the former supposedly has only an insignificant military component. This is said notwithstanding the fact that the Pentagon, as THE WASHINGTON POST stresses, is NASA's "major employer," instructing its shuttles to convey military components into space within the framework of the "star wars" program.

It is precisely the Pentagon that is now most concerned with finding the speediest solution to the problem of how and with what to replace the destroyed Challenger which, like other shuttles, was intended, in particular, to take intelligence satellites and other military-purpose units into space. It is calculated that building a new spaceship would cost approximately $2 billion and would take 2 and 1/2 years. Consequently, the question of using launch vehicles such as the Titan, for example, instead of Challenger is being considered as an alternative. It is not ruled out that the hasty Pentagon will request additional funds to build new, more powerful rockets which would be capable of carrying heavy military components into space.

The draft military budget attests to the desire to speed up the militarization of space. A total of $4.8 billion is being requested for fiscal year 1987 to implement the infamous "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) -- almost double that for the current fiscal year.

And next year it is planned to increase the correspondent appropriations to $3.5 billion.

U.S. militarist programs reveal another connection which clearly refutes unsubstantiated claims as to the supposedly "inoffensive" nature of SDI. The existence of this connection has even been admitted by Weinberger, who stated that SDI must be one of the buttresses of the U.S. nuclear "restraining factor" for many years to come and that it is a "component part and cornerstone of a whole series of changes" in U.S. strategic forces. In other words, the creation of one causes a sharp increase in the other. Both strategic and space weapons may be used as first nuclear strike means.

Although it is planned to complete implementation of the entire undertaking with "star wars" in 10 years, it will have very serious consequences -- if Washington persists in this matter -- even in the immediate future. "The fact of the matter is," M.S. Gorbachev says in his replies to questions put by the newspaper L'HUMANITE, "that, by implementing the 'star wars' program, Washington is basically consciously wrecking negotiations in progress and cancelling all existing agreements on arms limitation. In this case, even in the immediate future, the Soviet Union and the United States, their allies, and the whole world would find themselves in a situation of an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, strategic chaos, the most dangerous undermining of stability, universal uncertainty and fear, and, connected with all this, an increase in the risk of a catastrophe."

It is precisely on this level that we must evaluate the President's "State of the Union" address and the statements by U.S. military leaders. They are aimed at extorting additional large sums for pursuing an imperial policy "from a position of strength" and for taking on more and more new lethal systems. Illusory hopes of the United States gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union and of realizing the foolhardy idea of a "crusade" against socialism are now primarily connected with implementation of the "star wars" program.

The Soviet Union's precise, clear response to this challenge is well known. We are not afraid of falling behind in the space race if it is forced on us. Our military and technological potential should not be put to the test again. This could cost not only ourselves and the United States dearly, irreparably dearly, but also the whole of mankind. This serious warning has met with support from all people who soberly appraise the threat to peace emanating from the forces of war and aggression.

SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSSES ARMS WITH CANADIANS

LD131515 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Ottawa, February 13 TASS -- Conversations have taken place here with the participation of N. Uspenskiy, representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, on the Soviet program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement on January 15. The Canadian participants in the conversations included J. Taylor, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of Canada, A. Sullivan, deputy minister of foreign affairs, W. Wineguard, chairman of the House of Commons committee for foreign affairs and national defense, and other officials.

BLOC NUCLEAR EXPORT CONFERENCE HELD IN BERLIN

LD132226 Moscow TASS in English 2211 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Berlin February 13 TASS -- Socialist countries exporting nuclear materials, equipment and technology held a meeting in Berlin on February 12-13.

Its participants stressed that the implementation of the large-scale programme of eliminating all nuclear weapons, given a ban on strike space armaments, advanced by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, would bring about a drastic improvement in the international situation, avert the nuclear threat and strengthen peace on earth.

The meeting's participants discussed a broad range of questions connected with the further consolidation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Noting the positive results of the third nuclear non-proliferation review conference, the meeting's participants came out in favour of the early implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the conference, directed at banning the testing of nuclear weapons and strengthening the international regime of non-proliferation.

Special attention was given during debates to measures for enhancing control over nuclear export. While favouring broad development of international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, the meeting's participants stressed the immense importance of strict compliance by all sides with their pledges under the non-proliferation treaty and other international accords.

The meeting's participants expressed their support for the activity of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and came out in favour of enhancing the agency's role in ensuring control, especially in non-nuclear states.

The heads of the delegation were received by secretary of state, First Deputy Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic Herbert Krolikowski. The meeting was chaired by the head of the GDR delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister Peter Florin.

SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARY MEETING ENDS IN WARSAW

LD141146 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The consultative meeting of leaders of parliamentary groups of the socialist countries has ended in Warsaw. Delegates from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, the DPRK, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia took part in it. The Soviet Union was represented by Voss, deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group and chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USS Supreme Soviet.

The importance of the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which a comprehensive program of initiatives directed toward freeing the world from nuclear weapons was advanced, for the cause of preventing a nuclear war and improving international tension, was emphasized at the meeting.

PORTUGALOV ON SAKHAROV, AGENT EXCHANGE, ARMS

AU131507 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 13 Feb 86 p 7

["Exclusive interview" with Nikolay Portugalov, "Influential Soviet politician in charge of international information at the CPSU Central Committee" to ARBEITER-ZEITUNG reporters Georg Hoffmann-Ostenhof and Robert Wiesner in Vienna on 12 February]

[Text] [NEUE AZ] Mr Portugalov, may I begin with a very topical question? Is the so-called 'agents' exchange," in the course of which Shcharanskiy has now been released, an isolated event, or is this generally embedded in the new Gorbachev policy?

PORTUGALOV: I would not attach any special signifiance to this event. It is not the first time that this has been done. No, that is not embedded into a general development. It is not world-moving. I understand you, it is indeed a topic of the day, but believe me, in 2 days no one will care about it any more. You refer to Shcharanskiy with the puzzling term dissident [Regimekriticer].

[NEUE AZ] Puzzling?

PORTUGALOV: Yes, but for us he is a secret political agent of the other side. If they want to have Shcharanskiy, well, now they have got him, delivered free of charge.

[NEUE AZ] But Sakharov is certainly not an agent?

PORTUGALOV: No agent.

[NEUE AZ] Would he not bother you less in New York than in Gorkiy?

PORTUGALOV: Let me cite the weighty word of General Secretary Gorbachev, who said that for us there is an insurmountable obstacle that does not permit us to let Academy member Sakharov move abroad: He is a bearer of the highest state secrets. As father of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, he is absolutely familiar with our scientific and strategic research work in this field...

[NEUE AZ] He may have been that -- 15 years ago...

PORTUGALOV: First of all, regarding such weapons systems, one is working and thinking in terms of long time period. Second, he is an important physician, which is proved by the fact that he is still working in his field and is writing scientifically important publications. He continues to be familiar with the arms-technological development in our country. But one should not overrate those kinds of problems.

[NEUE AZ] OK, then let us turn to the disarmament problem. How do you assess the West's reaction to Gorbachev's three-phase plan that provides for total nuclear disarmament by the turn of the century?

PORTUGALOV: The Europeans have reacted rather positively and have shown themselves to be rather open-minded. The Americans, on the other hand, for the time being have not gone beyond a generally positive attitude. They are in no particular hurry to come up with specific reactions.

[NEUE AZ] Could you clarify that? The three-phase plan -- to what extent is it linked with Washington's renouncing the "star wars" program to which you are so opposed?

PORTUGALOV: I can give you a very precise answer: Regarding the solving of the intermediate-range missile problem -- that is, removal of all intermediate-range weapons of the United States and the USSR in Europe -- there is no linkage with SDI; there is no linkage with the general nuclear test freeze; nor is there a linkage with the Vienna negotiations on conventional armament, or the Stockholm CDE process. Here agreements can be reached irrespective of the U.S. attitude toward SDI.

[NEUE AZ] "Removal," "elimination" of the intermediate-range weapons -- what does this mean? Transfer or liquidation?

PORTUGALOV: It must be unequivocally declared: To remove means to destroy. There will be no moving around of missiles from West to East, as is occasionally imputed to us. They will be destroyed. And not only these missiles will be destroyed but also the pertinent launching pads, everything that has been deployed.

[NEUE AZ] And this destruction will be verified?

PORTUGALOV: Yes, all this will be verified, nationally and internationally, including on-the-spot inspections. But, you see: the three-phase plan is not meant to be a "do or die" proposition, but a basis for negotiations. In our opinion it is indeed a far better basis than would have been at all conceivable in the past few years.

[NEUE AZ] If one considers that in the first phase of the plan up to 1990 the French and the British would not have to destroy their intermediate-range missiles but could even modernize them, then one gets the impression that there might after all be some justification to the charge that Moscow is seeking to drive a wedge between the United States and Europe.

PORTUGALOV: Listen, we are realists. This is certainly unrealistic, given the deeply-rooted relations between the United States and Europe. But, it is true that we do distinguish between a policy guided by genuine West European interests, and an unconditional, let me say vassal-like, dependence on America. There exist, of course, nuances within the European alliance. But these are European decisions.

[NEUE AZ] But one nevertheless gets the impression that Gorbachev has adopted a more differentiated and more differentiating policy vis-avis the Europeans in NATO...

PORTUGALOV: I would not contradict you in this respect. And it is quite obvious, why: On the two -- or, if you want to include China, three -- big powers we are the only European one. We are indeed part of Europe ourselves.

SHEVARDNADZE, UN OFFICIAL DISCUSS AFGHANISTAN

PM131119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] On 11 Feburary E. A. Shevardnadze, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received D. Cordovez, UN deputy secretary general, mediator in the Afghan-Pakistani talks, who is visiting Moscow.

Questions were discussed concerning international guarantees of a possible political settlement which these talks are to produce. E.A. Shevardnadze noted that, as M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, the Soviet Union is determined that substantial progress will be achieved in the cause of a political settlement around Afghanistan in 1986.

D. Cordovez also had a conversation with G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

LYUTYY ON U.S. 'FINANCIAL BLACKMAIL' OF UN

LD111309 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksander Lyutyy.

The United States is reducing its role at the United Nations and its specialized bodies, which follows from the draft federal budget for the 1987 financial year, submitted by Ronald Reagan's administration to Congress.

The draft provides for cuts in U.S. contributions to the international organizations by 10 million dollars. The U.S. Government will continue pursuing its restrictory budgetary policy with regard to the United Nations, the draft says.

Washington's attempt to resort to financial blackmail of the world community is obvious. U.S. Administration officials have for several years been mounting a campaign of slander against the United Nations and its specialized bodies, hardly hiding their irritation over the growing criticism of the U.S. adventurous course at world community circles.

Unable to suppress the criticism, the United States is using traditional methods of threats and financial "sanctions" with regard to the most authoritative international organization.

Moreover, the United States actually stopped its participation in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Now, the White House is threatening to boycott those specialized bodies of the United Nations where Israel, Washington's chief Middle East ally, is sharply criticized for aggressive actions.

Attempting to undermine the U.N. finances, the American Government thus contradicts its own assurances of its "commitment" to the charter and objectives of the world community, directed at strengthening peace and international mutual understanding.

In reality, it is crude diktat, pressure and interference in the affairs of other states which are the core of U.S. foreign policy. It is cynically stressed in the draft federal budget that rather than increasing allocations for the activity of the United Nations, the administration decided to give higher priority to other forms of assistance to foreign states. The point at issue is primarily the escalation of arms deliveries to Washington's allies and puppets around the world.

DEBATE OPENS IN UN ON PEACEFUL USE OF SPACE

LD122219 Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshov reports:

The realization of mankind's peaceful plans in outer space is possible only in conditions of its non-militarization and development of peaceful international cooperation. This idea keynoted the general debate which opened at a session of the scientific and technical subcommittee of the U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

The boundaries of space, which should be used only for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all people, should be slammed shut for weapons, said Truong Trieu Duong, a repsentative of Vietnam, who opened the debate. Regrettably, the threat overhanging mankind and emanating from the intention to deploy weapons in outer space under the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" arouses increased concern.

Man's energies should be directed at ensuring conditions for cooperation in peaceful exploration of the boundless expanses of space rather than spreading the arms race into it, said Stanislav Grzedzielski (Poland). The way to space should be open only for peaceful purposes and only for mankind's benefit, said Robert Knuth (the German Democratic Republic). The success of international cooperation in outer space hinges, above all, on the display of the good will on the part of all states.

The participants in the session heard with great interest a report by Academician O.G. Gazenko, head of the Soviet delegation, on the stage-by-stage implementation of a broad programme for exploring and using outer space and deepening U.S.S.R.'s international cooperation in this field. It has become totally obvious lately, he said, that the solution of the cardinal problems of strengthening peace and international cooperation, reducing armaments and promoting disarmament, and developing broad inter-state cooperation depends in a crucial degree on the way along which further exploration of space will be carried out -- either it is preserved peaceful or it is converted into a potential arena of confrontation and armed conflicts. The Soviet Union firmly opposes the extension of the arms race to outer space. It has submitted for the consideration of the United Nations a whole set of far-reaching proposals on concrete measures designed to ensure the peaceful uses of outer space.

TASS PREVIEWS NATO 'ANCHOR EXPRESS-86' MANEUVERS

LD131619 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

"Anchor Express-36" is the codename of big NATO exercises which are to begin on February 15. As was reported in Brussels by an official representative of the headquarters of the supreme allied commander Europe. The exercises will be held on the territory of northern Norway -- on its land, in its airspace and coastal waters.

Northern Europe will again become for a whole month an arena of big NATO military exercises. More than 20,000 men of land forces, airforce and navy of eight NATO member countries -- the United States, Britain, Canada, West Germany, Norway, Italy, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, supported by a great number of combatant ships, planes, tanks, artillery and other military equipment, will test, in accordance with plans of the NATO headquarters, cooperation between units of all armed services, cope with tasks of transportation of NATO reinforcements -- the NATO mobile force -- to Norway's northern areas.

The provocative character of the NATO exercises is obvious. It is not at all accidental that they are to be held in direct proximity of the USSR's and frontiers, its sea and air communications. The NATO strategists also took much care to create a "favorable", as they understand, atmosphere around the exercises, an atmosphere of anti-Soviet hysteria.

NATO General Secretary Lord Carrington, who visited Scandinavia only recently, was expanding on the "decisive significance of NATO's northern flank", that is Norway and Denmark, for the whole of the North Atlantic bloc. He did not fail to reiterate, as was reported by the Swedish Telegraph Bureau TT, the hackneyed version on a "Soviet threat", on a " tantial rise in the might of the Soviet naval forces in the north", on "conspicuous superiority of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation."

Then came the visit of the Supreme allied commander Europe American General Bernard Rogers, who speaking in Oslo, even more exaggerated a "Soviet threat", which allegedly hangs over the Northern Europe. He prompted the "only way out" -- to increase military appropriations of NATO northern allies, Norway and Denmark.

The REUTER news agency cites him as saying that without that NATO will not be able to send its reinforcements to Scandinavia in case of a "crisis situation" there. Building up ideas of NATO solidarity and common military-strategic interests, General Bernard Rogers went as far as deeming it appropriate to bracket NATO countries Norway and Denmark with the neutral states of Sweden and Finland. According to him, NATO is annoyed with the reduction in military expenditures of Sweden in the past six years, which allegedly prevents the Swedish Armed Forces from discharging their task. On behalf of NATO he called upon Sweden and Finland to keep military expenditures at a level that would enable them to "deter an attack" on their territory.

Everything is ready for the "Anchor Express" exercises, everything has been taken into account and planned -- the troops of allied states have got prepared to "repel a Soviet attack". The NATO strategists are unwilling to heed only one thing -- that the absolute majority of the population of the north want to see their countries free from nuclear weapons, from foreign troops, from foreign military bases. The Norwegians, Danes, Swedes and Finns see the guarantees of security of the north of Europe in peace and goodneighborliness, rather than in continuation of the arms race.

EUROPE-U.S. 'DISSENT' ON ARMS TALKS CITED

LD131841 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] London, 13 Feb (TASS) -- A session of the NATO Council at ambassador level -- permament representatives took place on 12 February in Brussels under conditions of strict secrecy. P. Nitze, the special adviser on arms reduction talks to the U.S. President and secretary of state took part in the council's work.

According to REUTER, the representatives of the member countries expressed to Nitze "mixed feelings in connection with the United States proposed reply to the plan of the Soviet leader, M.S. Gorbachev, to eliminate nuclear weapons stage-by-stage by the year 2000."

The news agency report from Brussels goes on to say that, according to the participants in the session, Nitze stated to the council that Washington would not agree to the Soviet demand that the French and British nuclear arsenals be frozen and that the deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in other countries be banned. He also defended the principle of "globalism" in the solution of the problem of medium-range nuclear weapons, by means of which the United States is attempting to block the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe.

A press conference given by A. Holmes, a State Department specialist on medium-range missiles, which had been planned for immediately after the NATO Council session, was cancelled at the very last moment for considerations of secrecy. Instead of this, Holmes made a short statement saying: "As President Reagan has already said, the United States will not adopt final decisions until the completion of discussions with its allies. The NATO members have confirmed their support for the appeal by U.S. President Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which was contained in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement of 21 November 1985, to strive for the most rapid progress in those areas where there are common points of contact, including in medium-range nuclear weapons."

Later, Nitze flew to Washington to report to Reagan on the results of his trip, along with E. Rowny, the other adviser on arms reduction talks to the President and the secretary of state who was engaged in taking U.S. allies in Asia to task.

The British GUARDIAN writes in this connection:

"The North-Atlantic bloc NATO has hidden itself behind the wall of silence, after top-level consultations were held between the allies in respect of the recent moves in the field of the Soviet-U.S. talks on arms control. The suddent cancellation of the planned press conference has given rise to rumors of disagreement between the United States and European countries on the issue of strategy at the talks. However, circles close to the NATO meeting have denied the reports of dissent."

OBSERVER CONSIDERS NEED FOR ASIAN SECURITY

PM131057 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 3

[Article by own international observer M. Nepesov: "Asia -- Peace and Stability"]

[Excerpt] It can be said without exaggeration that throughout the postwar period problems of peace and security have been posed and continue to be posed more acutely on the Asian Continent than on any other. Wars of liberation, in which foreign colonialists have spilled much Asian peoples' blood, have been waged in various regions there since 1945. Overseas, imperialists launched wars of extermination in Asia against the populations of Vietnam, Korea, Cambodia, and Laos, using chemical and bacteriological weapons. Many arduous conflicts have been caused by local reaction backed by imperialist circles. Everyone can see the present complex situation surrounding Democratic Afghanistan, which is being attacked from Pakistani territory by dushmans armed and trained with U.S. CIA money.

And finally, the greatest danger, the thermonuclear danger. Large stocks of nuclear arms have been stockpiled in the Asian and Pacific region today -- arms which threaten every country not only there but elsewhere. Moreover, it is precisely in Asia that one finds the areas of greatest concentration of nuclear weapons, like South Korea, for example. The density of nuclear munitions sited there is four times greater than in any NATO country. Nowhere in the world are there more nuclear mines than along the 38th parallel bisecting the Korean peninsula. Moreover, according to press figures, there are 56 neutron bombs in South Korea. Altogether there are more than 1,000 nuclear weapons of various sorts concentrated there.

It is possible to name other points on Asian countries' territory where nuclear death also lurks. These include Clark Field air base and Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines and the giant base on Diego Garcia atoll — which can accommodate SSBN's and B-52 strategic bombers carrying nuclear weapons.

The atoll, which is crammed with lethal devices, is located right in the middle of the Indian Ocean, whose waters are constantly patrolled by warships armed with cruise missiles carrying nuclear warheads.

As everyone is well aware, these military bases and nuclear arsenals situated on land, at sea, and under the sea belong to the Pentagon. But the question is: What was America's aim in siting these means of mass destruction on others' territory, many thousands of miles from its own shores? The first answer is obvious: The nuclear weapons are primarily targeted at the Soviet Union. After all, the flight time of U.S. missiles and fighter-bombers to the Soviet Union from certain Asian countries is roughly the same as from the West European states where U.S. first-strike missiles have been sited. The second answer is also evident: Some people in Washington would like to maintain a number of Asian states, especially the "recalcitrant" ones, in their nuclear sights. It is no secret that U.S. generals planned at one time to deliver atomic strikes against the DPRK and the PRC, and President Nixon even considered the possibility of using nuclear weapons during the 1971 Indian-Pakistani military conflict.

Of course, such a "prospect" in no way suits the Asian peoples. The Soviet program for eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of the present millennium is what harmonizes with their mood. It is understandable therefore that, as soon as the news of M.S. Gorbachev's statement reached Delhi, R. Gandhi, chairman of the Nonaligned Movement and prime minister of India, said: "The CPSU Central Committee General Secretary's statement is very heartening... The program proposed by the Soviet Union is an alternative to nuclear arms in outer space. The document marks the way to freeing the world of nuclear weapons."

The Soviet Union has repeatedly put forward specific initiatives aimed at strengthening Asian security. Last year our country put forward a new proposal on striving for a comprehensive approach to the problem of security in Asia and uniting the efforts of Asian states in that direction. It envisages holding both bilateral and multilateral talks and consultations. The recent official visit to Japan by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and his subsequent official friendly visits to the DPRK and Mongolia were graphic confirmation of the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy. The organization of a pan-Asian forum for the exchange of opinions and a joint search for constructive solutions is possible in the future.

It goes without saying that it is very important for all the Asian countries to jointly elaborate measures ensuring peace and stability in the region. Particularly because some considerable experience has already been built up in this matter. It is sufficient to recall the Panch Shila -- the five principles on which interstate relations should be based, namely: mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty; nonaggression; noninterference in each other's internal affairs; equality and mutual benefit; and peaceful coexistence. In addition to these principles, the famous Bandung Conference also made important decisions whose consistent implementation would undoubtedly improve the atmosphere on the continent.

How much healthier the atmosphere in Asia would be if the DPRK's proposals on the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the south of the peninsula and the country's unification on peaceful, democratic principles without outside interference were implemented, or the proposals from India and a number of other states on turning the Indian Ocean into a zone free of nuclear weapons were carried out! The commitment by the two nuclear states on the continent -- the USSR and the PRC -- not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is an important factor in strengthening peace and stability in Asia. However, the implementation of the Soviet program formulated in M.S. Gorbachev's statement would represent the most fundamental solution to that problem. It would radically change the atmosphere on the continent, deliver the peoples in that part of the globe from the fear of a nuclear and chemical threat, and raise security in the region to a qualitatively new level.

It is important to stress here that the Soviet people regard the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century as a contribution to the search, in conjunction with all the countries of Asia, for a common, comprehensive approach to forging a system for security and lasting peace on that continent.

PYZHKOV MESSAGE TO ASIAN BUDDHIST PEACE FORUM

PM121755 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] To the participants in the Seventh General Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace":

On behalf of the Soviet Government I cordially greet the participants in the 7th General Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace.

Your organization represents a broad Buddhist movement on the Asian Continent for prevention of war, consolidation of peace in Asia and the entire world. A real threat of a world nuclear catastrophe now hangs over mankind. This threat is growing with every new twist in the arms spiral and the forces hostile to peace are nurturing ominous plans of space militarization and "star wars" and are kindling seats of war conflicts in different parts of the world. The people of most different races and nationalities, ideological views and world outlook are therefore now pooling their efforts for peace.

The Soviet State, true as it is to the Leninist peace policy, is doing its utmost to prevent a new world war. We promised the whole world that we shall never be the first to use nuclear weapons and that we shall not use outer space for military purposes. The recently published statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee contains a new peace program of historical significance. The USSR proposed that before the end of this century nuclear and chemical weapons be fully eliminated and that other weapons of mass destruction be banned. The Soviet Union extended its moratorium, introduced on 6 August 1985, on all types of nuclear tests in the hope that the United States and other nuclear powers will follow suit.

As one of the biggest Asian states, the Soviet Union is paying priority attention to ensuring security in Asia. We are known to have proposed to carry out a comprehensive approach to that problem and for that sake, to pool the efforts of all Asian states up to the holding of an all-Asia forum in the future.

We appraise the constructive peace initiatives of other Asian countries on their merits, we comprehensively support the idea that the Indian Ocean should become a peace zone, the idea of proclaiming the southern part of the Pacific a nuclear-free zone and the proposal that such a zone be formed in Southeast Asia. It is also important internationally that the two very big [obe krupneyshiye] nuclear powers on the Asian Continent -- the USSR and the People's Republic of China -- undertook the obligation not to be the first to use clear weapons.

Each measure involving reduction of armaments is bound not only to give peoples greater security but will make it possible to allocate more money to deal with famine and diseases, poverty and backwardness.

The Soviet Government highly appraises activities of religious organisations for peace and disarmament and their tireless efforts to draw broad masses of believers into the antiwar movement.

I wish the participants in your conference success in these noble activities.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

NOTES EXCHANGED ON RESUMPTION OF U.S. AIR LINKS

LD132217 Moscow TASS in English 2207 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 14 TASS -- The USSR's ambassador to the United States, Anatoliy Dobrynin, and the acting secretary of state of the United States, John Whitehead, on Thursday exchanged diplomatic notes on the entry into force of the Soviet-American agreement on the resumption from April 29, 1986 of direct regular air links between the Soviet Union and the United States.

In line with the agreement, Aeroflot planes will carry out regular flights to Washington and New York, while planes of the American airline Pan American will fly to Moscow and Leningrad.

REAGAN THANKS GORBACHEV FOR SHUTTLE CONDOLENCES

LD141143 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1132 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Feb. (TASS) -- In a letter addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, U.S. President Ronald Reagan expressed thanks for the condolences on the death of the crew of the Challenger space shuttle. As the President notes, the American astronauts gave their lives in order to expand mankind's horizons, and their courage will serve the cause of research into space.

FURTHER REPORTS ON U.S. EXERCISES OFF LIBYA

3d Carrier To Join Maneuvers

LD131954 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 13 TASS -- The U.S. aircraft carrier America will leave its home port two weeks before schedule to join the carriers Saratoga and Coral Sea in the Mediterranean by mid-March, according to an official announcement made here.

UPI news agency reports that the America will join the U.S. battle group in the Mediterranean at a time of the biggest naval exercises in the region in the past 16 months.

The United States has been flaunting its naval force in direct proximity to the coasts of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for two weeks now. The armada of U.S. warships, including the aircraft carriers, poses a direct threat to Libyan security.

The world public denounces the provocative American undertaking aimed at intimidating the Libyan people and forcing Libya to give up its irreconcilable position with regard to aggressive machinations by American imperialism and Israeli Zionism in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

By sending new American warships into the region, the United States intends to keep its 6th Fleet ready for a direct armed invasion of Libyan territory.

Preparing for 'Aggression'

PM131639 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent V. Peresada: "Militarist Intrigue"]

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb -- The U.S. military has begun new naval and air maneuvers today in the south Mediterranean. Like previous shows staged here 2 weeks ago, they are being held in the immediate vicinity of Libya's shores and are directed against that sovereignty country. The United States' present anti-Libyan action is distinguished by its unprecedented dimensions and by the increased aggressiveness of its organizers. Over 20 warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet are taking part in the maneuvers, including two shock groupings headed by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga. They are soon to be joined by the aircraft carrier America with an escort detachment. According to a Pentagon spokesman, the zone of the maneuvers could extend to the Gulf of Sidra which, as is well known, Libya regards as part of its territorial waters. According to recent reports, U.S. carrier-based aircraft have been given the order to "immediately invade" the air corridors used by Libyan civil aircraft.

The Libyan newspaper AL-FAJR AL-JADID writes that under these conditions Washington could provoke any incident in order to unleash aggression against Libya. That preparation for aggression is under way is borne out in particular by the following fact. Throughout the last three months the U.S. Navy aircraft have been rehearsing bombing strikes on a special testing range in the Negev Desert. Tens of aircraft took part in the training operations coming from aircraft carriers now in the south Mediterranean.

The United States' constant militarist intrigues around Libya are causing anger and indignation in the Arab world. The governments, political parties, and public organizations of the majority of Arab states are stating their solidarity with that country.

"The military maneuvers and other U.S. anti-Libyan onslaughts are nothing but terrorism promoted to the rank of state policy," H. Muhyi al-Din, general secretary of Egypt's National Progressive Unionist Party, says. "This policy has already been manifested repeatedly both in the Near East and in other regions where U.S. imperialism is trying to implant its diktat. Today Washington's sights are turned on an Arab country that is our neighbor. In resolutely denouncing the aggressive U.S. course, the Egyptian people, like other Arab peoples, demand: 'Hands off Libya!'"

SHULTZ, LATIN AMERICAN MINISTERS MEETING VIEWED

PM131521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by Andrey Tolkunov under the rubric "Commentator's Column": "They Have Brushed It Aside..."]

[Text] New York -- The meeting between U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz and the foreign ministers of Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Panama has just ended in Washington. The ministers again advocated a peaceful settlement in the Central American region, including the halting of U.S. military interference there and its support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary terrorists.

The "Eight," according to Peruvian Foreign Minister Alan Wagner, tried to persuade official Washington to proceed along this, the only sensible path. "We believe this proposal to be a balanced one which takes into account the interests of all sides." Argentine Minister of Foreign Relations and Worship D. Caputo noted, stressing that this proposal is supported by the Latin American countries. The ministers of the eight countries suggested resuming the talks between the United States and Nicaragua broken off last year at Washington's initiative.

But instead of a constructive response to this new initiative G. Shultz tried yet again to justify the United States' overt and concealed interference in the affairs of the countries of Central America and above all Nicaragua. These statements by the secretary of state were as it were an accompaniment to the request sent to Congress by the White House for the next fiscal year for an appropriation of up to $100 million to support the Nicaraguan "contras." Of these at least $60 million will go to purchase arms.

These actions fit into the framework of the doctrine which is aimed at overthrowing governments inconvenient to Washington. U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT reports that, having taken this doctrine as a guideline to action, the Washington administration also intends to demand from Congress the expansion of military supplies to the Afghan, Cambodian, and Angolan rebels.

The financing of criminal groupings, economic blockade, the weaving of plots, and gross military-political pressure -- those are the tools of Washington's new doctrine aimed against states which have dared to oppose U.S. diktat.

Having brushed aside the Latin American countries' present initiative, Washington has once more demonstrated its reluctance to promote the elimination of the seat of tension in Central America on the basis of the principles of noninterference, and respect for states' sovereignty and territorial integrity. The course steered by the United States toward fueling the crisis fundamentally contradicts the aspirations of the Central American peoples and the widely publicized assurances of the Washington politicians themselves about their "desire" for a political settlement of regional conflicts.

REAGAN'S 'NEOGLOBALISM' MARKED BY 'INTERVENTION'

LD131955 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow February 13 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov.

In his recent "Agenda for the Future" address U.S. President Ronald Reagan reiterated the readiness of the United States to contribute to the settlement of wars through negotiations. In the same document he proclaimed that democratic nations of Central America needed U.S. assistance.

Washington was offered a chance to back that readiness with its practical actions, to assist effectively a peaceful settlement of the situation in that region. At the just-ended meeting with the U.S. secretary of state in Washington ministers from eight Latin American countries -- Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay and Panama -- put forward another proposal on a peaceful settlement in the Central American region, including the termination of U.S. military intervention there and the end to support for Nicaraguan "contras".

As was the case more than once before that, Washington waved away that proposal that is supported not only by Latin American countries, but other states, including Common Market nations and Japan, as well. Moreover, the U.S. secretary of state tried yet another time to justify overt and covert U.S. intervention in the affairs of Central American countries, Nicaragua first and foremost.

Somewhat earlier the U.S. Administration had been given yet another invitation to contribute to the settlement through negotiations in another part of the world. That time the proposal had come from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea -- not to hold large-scale military exercises in the Korean peninsula and around it and, in doing so, to promote the lessening of tensions in that region, to conduct dialogue between the North and the South on improving bilateral relations and on a peaceful reunification of the country. And still Washington had rejected that reasonable proposal coming in line with the spirit of Geneva and had given the green light to large-scale military maneuvers, Team Spirit-86, which constitute a direct threat to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other peaceful states and undermine security in the Asian and Pacific region.

The reluctance to reckon with the vital interests of other states, to take due account of the aspirations of other peoples evidently became an inseparable part of the policy pursued by the Washington Administration -- the policy that is called "neoglobalism". It is underlied not by the striving for settlement, but by a deliberate cultivation of conflicts, not by assistance, but by direct intervention, right down to armed intervention, in the affairs of sovereign states. This is what follows from Washington's concrete actions toward Nicaragua and Angola, Afghanistan and Kampuchea, as well as other states.

In the Mediterranean the United States staged an act against the Libyan Jamahiriya. This move has no precedent as regards its scale and is aggressive in essence. Warplanes based on the aircraft carriers that were ordered to sail to the coast of that country are to try and provoke an incident which could serve as a pretext for an American aggression or an American-Israeli aggression against Libya. According to reports from Haiti, the United States is prepared for a direct armed aggression if it fails to stifle with the help of backstage scheming the process of democratization that is long due in that country. In connection with the presidential election in the Philippines, a Washington correspondent of the London-based DAILY NEWS writes, the question arose concerning the scale of direct military intervention in that country. An armada of ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet led by the aircraft carrier Enterprise is stationed there. Further, there are about 50,000 U.S. servicemen ready to protect the "vital interests" of the United States in that country if the trends of domestic developments there do not suit Washington.

Such is the unsavory image of "neoglobalism". Such is the readiness of the U.S. Administration to contribute to the "settlement" of regional problems and to render "assistance to democratic nations."

REAGAN SEEKS 'DIRECT CONTROL' OVER MANILA

LD140544 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The White House is concerned about the possibility of an explosion in the confrontation in the Philippines betweeen Marcos and Aquino supporters. Moreover, the U.S. Administration is worried about the future of U.S. bases and military facilities, in particular, of such gigantic facilities as Clark Field and Subic Bay. In order to exercise direct control over the domestic political situation in the Philippines, Reagan has decided to send his personal representative Habib to Manila. As the Washington correspondent of the newspaper YOMIURI points out, Habib's mission is aimed at achieving a compromise between the government and the opposition.

SOVIET, IRANIAN OFFICIALS ADDRESS MOSCOW MEETING

NC121747 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] As we told you in a previous broadcast, a meeting was held in Moscow's Hall of Friendship on the 7th anniversary of the Iranian revolution. The affair was hosted by the Presidium of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran. Employees of the Soviet Foreign Ministry and the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Moscow University professors, journalists, and students from the University of Asian and African Nations were among the state and social dignitaries attending at the invitation of the Presidium. Representatives of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran were also present.

Daniel Komisarov, a professor at the Orientology Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and deputy chairman of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, opened the reception, saying: As a result of the mass popular movement that included representatives of all strata, despite their social and national beliefs, the despotic shah was overthrown in Iran 7 years ago. The Iranian people paid a high price for their victory. Tens of thousands of young Iranians were killed by the shah's executioners, who were armed to the teeth with foreign weapons, the majority of which came from the United States. The Iranian revolution of 1979 dealt a palpable blow to U.S. imperialism, which had been the shah's mentor and had plundered Iran's national wealth, imposing a foreign culture and way of life on the Iranians. The Soviet people expressed their happiness at the Iranian revolution and strongly condemned imperialist plans to stifle it. The Soviet Government's serious warning on the impermissibility of interference in Iran's domestic affairs, which came at a sensitive time when Iran faced an economic siege and the threat of U.S. military intervention, was heard around the world.

Boris (Diev), a senior official from the Soviet Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, examined Soviet-Iranian relations at the reception. He said: The Soviet public, which takes part in the activities of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, truly believes that the Soviet and Iranian peoples have numerous problems and duties in common. The struggle to achieve peace and overcome the threat of nuclear war is the most important of these. Our relations include discussions, meetings, contacts, exchanges of views and ideas, and a growing familiarization with the cultural values of both countries. The Soviet public welcomed the recent visit to Iran by Georgiy Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, which featured meetings with leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran and discussions of various problems of mutual interest.

Boris (Diev) gave a detailed account of Soviet-Iranian economic relations and cooperation in the field of ferrous metallurgy. He noted: We have provided technical and economic assistance to Iran in the construction of steel plants since 1966. The USSR did the designing, delivered technical equipment and various materials, sent groups of experts to Iran, and set up centers to train Iranians in our country's schools and factories. With technical assistance from the Soviet Union, Iranian companies completed the first stage in the construction of the Esfahan Steel Mill, which had an annual output of 550,000 tons and became operational in 1973. In September 1974, its rate of production and output reached the planned level, and since (?1983) has been at 1.9 million tons a year. Once the construction of the steel rolling mills is completed in the near future, the Esfahan steel plant will be the largest of its type, and will be the basis for development and progress in other branches of Iran's economy.

Mahmud Sadri, a representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Moscow, delivered a brief reply, saying:

[Begin recording] In the name of God Almighty: I would like to thank all those present, as well as the officials of this friendship society, and I hope that this organization will become a link in the chain of relations among states and especially those ties between the Iranian and Soviet nations. One of the achievements of our revolution and one of the special characteristics of Iran's Islamic Revolution is the great importance we attach to relations among nations. Our relations with the Soviet state are of special importance due to its anti-imperialist solidarity. Again, I offer deep thanks to the officials of this friendship society on my own behalf and on behalf of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [end recording]

A film on an Iranian tale entitled "Voyage on the (?Indus)" was also shown at the reception, and was warmly received by the audience.

ARISTOV, DRA OFFICIAL COMMENT ON TRADE AGREEMENT

LD131559 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- Trade turnover between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will grow by 30 per cent. This is envisaged by a five-year trade agreement that was signed here today by the USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov and the Minister of Trade of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Khan Jalalar.

Under the agreement the Soviet Union will supply Afghanistan with transport and agricultural equipment, raw materials, fuel, some farm products and foodstuffs while Afghanistan will export to the Soviet Union farm produce. Some types of raw materials and consumer goods.

"The trade ties between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are developing on the basis of long-term agreements since 1976", Boris Aristov said during the signing ceremony. "Their successful fulfillment creates a sound basis for the implementation of the third such agreement that was signed today. The volume of bilateral trade has almost trebled during the past five years."

"Cooperation with the Soviet Union within the framework of the new agreemnt is an important condition of the fulfillment of Afghanistan's economic development plans in the period till the year 1990," a TASS correspondent was told by Muhammed Khan Jalalar. "The USSR is my country's main trade partner and accounts for almost two thirds of its foreign trade", the minister stressed.

"The new agreement creates a basis for the development both of the states and the private sectors of Afghanistan's economy", Muhammad Khan Jalalar noted. "For example, up to 90 per cent of the export of raw materials and farm produce to the Soviet Union will be by private firms. The deliveries of Soviet consumer goods under the new agreement will help meet more fully the population's requirements and have a stabilizing influence on retail prices in the country," the Afghan minister of trade said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA PROFILES DRA POLITICAL OFFICER

PM101615 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Punko and Major A. Oliynik article: "Words Are His Weapons"]

[Text] An all-Afghan conference of ideological workers was held in Kabul recently. Our story is about one of its participants -- a political officer who is waging an uncompromising battle to win over his deceived and scared countrymen who have become imperialist hirelings.

The Charikar Valley looked purple in the sunset. The gusty Afghan wind carried the sounds of a distant battle. Senior Captain (Ikram Kamal) had brought a broadcasting station here. The vehicle stopped at the combat lines of an Afghan Army infantry battalion.

(Kamal) introduced himself to the subunit commander, "I am the presenter of the 'Feat of the Revolution' radio program. I request that you temporarily cease fire..."

The broadcasting station moved forward behind the cover of a destroyed mud wall. (Kamal) switched on the recorder and the speakers played a song which each Afghan knows and loves. It was sung by the well-known singer (Maskhur Jamal).

The dushman shooting stopped. Would it be for long? (Kamal) tool the microphone. In a slightly hoarse voice he started saying:

"Brothers! The fields await your hands; the vines await your hands. Against whom have you taken up arms? Against your starving children and mothers who cannot remove their black shawls or stop crying over the killed and tortured."

The quiet over the battlefield grew more intense and tangible and then gunfire and mortar shelling suddenly broke out -- one of the dushman ringleaders had realized that it was necessary to immediately stop the broadcast. But (Kamal's) impassioned voice that had caused the fire did not fall silent. Boosted by the powerful radio speakers, it grew louder, drowning out the din. Like heavy shelling, his voice filtered through the walls of the old fortress where the dushmans were holed up.

The shelling intensified and more and more shrapnel hit the truck's armor plating. But (Kamal) kept on talking angrily and passionately. His words rang out like an alarm over the battlefield. They filled the Afghan servicemen who were rushing into the attack, with combat enthusiasm. Those words were undoubtedly in the soldiers' hearts when they tore forward under heavy machinegun fire and, breaking through the breaches in the walls of the old fortress, enaged in hand-to-hand fighting...

The large dushman gang was routed, most of them laid down their weapons and gave themselves up. It was not just the accurate shooting of the Afghan servicemen that had led to victory in the battle. The words of truth that the fearless propagandist and agitation worker Senior Capt (Kamal) had implanted in the minds of the deceived and scared people were also components in the victory.

There are many such episodes in the combat biography of Senior Capt (Kamal), who was recently awarded the Star Order 3d Class. He was born in Herat. Some 13 of his 29 years have been devoted to the revolution. As a 17-year-old he became a PDPA member, worked on the party newspaper in the city of Balkh, and studied at the journalism faculty.

Now (Kamal) is chief of the Afghan Army Main Political Directorate Radio Propaganda Section and the presenter of "Feat of the Revolution" -- a program which is popular with soldiers. The broadcasts often feature impassioned poetry about the revolution. The author is also (Ikram Kamal).

"Senior Capt (Kamal) is an excellent propaganda worker," Colonel Abdul Wahed, his immediate superior, told us. "He has presented hundreds of radio broadcasts in regions of combat operations, and, when necessary, put down his microphone and roused the men to the attack..."

An event happened in Senior Capt (Ikram Kamal's) life about which people still talk. We were told about it at the PDPA provincial committee in Sheberghan City.

The group of (Gafur), nicknamed ("Pakhlavan"), numbered 1,500 people. It operated in Jowzjan Province in northern Afghanistan. When Senior Capt (Kamal) went to work there it was explained to him at the district PDPA committee that (Gafur) behaves strangely -- he neither steals nor kills. But at the same time he does not permit representatives of the authorities onto land controlled by his group.

(Kamal) set to thinking about how to disarm the (Gafur) group or even better -- how to win him over to the people's power. He managed to discover that (Gafur) grew up in a poor family. He had worked for feudal lords all his life. Now he could not fail to see that the people's power had done a great deal to improve the peasants' lives. Several schools had been built with the help of Soviet servicemen in Jowzjan Province; there are free handouts in the villages of the grain, salt, and other products that are needed; medical aid is provided... A simple man's soul could not fail to sense that the people's power is doing the people good. Was not that the source of (Gafur's) strange behavior?

(Kamal's) broadcasting station traveled virtually the entire province. (Ikram) broadcast dozens of radio programs and talked to hundreds of villages, many from (Gafur's) gang. And he obtained his objective.

One night a stone wrapped in paper was thrown over the wall into the yard of the house where (Kamal) was staying. It was a note to (Kamal) proposing a morning meeting at a croosroads. It was signed ("Pakhlavan").

(Kamal) set out at dawn. He saw a man's outline while still at a distance. Enormously tall, with a black beard and massive suburnt features, the man put his hand on his heart and gave a small bow.

"I am (Gafur), alias ('Pakhlavan')," (Kamal) heard. "I want to ask your advice, comrade..."

The conversation lasted a long time. And soon after this meeting (Gafur) was commanding a self-defense detachment and rebuffing the dushman gangs.

Senior Capt (Kamal) has a cherished dream -- to go to study in the Soviet Union. But he has not yet managed to make it reality.

"I have been putting off my studies for 7 years now," (Ikram) said. "My place is here for the time being, where we are battling the counterrevolution. I will study later, when the sound of shooting is over in my country and the blood of my compatriots has stopped flowing."

PRESIDENT MARCOS MAINTAINS LEAD OVER AQUINO

LD140005 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The Philippine national electoral commission has published unofficial details of the tally in the presidential election held on 7 February. Marcos, the present head of state, remains in the lead, with 600,000 more votes than Aquino, the opposition candidate. It is being declared in Marcos' entourage that his victory is virtually assured. Western diplomatic sources in Manila are inclining to the same view, indicates YOMIURI. The Philippine opposition is drawing up plans of action should Marcos be proclaimed the winner of the election. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, opponents of the country's present president are studying a plan for forming a shadow cabinet. If it is approved, notes the newspaper, a request will be made to foreign governments to recognize Aquino as the president of the country.

LANGE CHARGES U.S. WITH 'INSULTING' NEW ZEALAND

LD111557 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Canberra February 11 TASS -- Prime Minister David Lange of New Zealand has described attacks on his country by representative of the U.S. Administration and Congress as Rambo-style actions by belligerent politicians. Speaking in Wellington, he said the United States had been repeatedly insulting his country following its ban on calls by ships with nuclear weapons aboard or nuclear propulsion systems, the New Zealand press association reported. The U.S. Administration's tough position of the independent anti-nuclear policy of New Zealand, accompanied with blackmail and threats, is resented even by a number of American law-makers. The leader of a delegation of American Democratic senators now on a visit in New Zealand, David Boren of Oklahoma, said, for instance, that high-pitched rhetoric would not solve the problem. Both Lange and the members of the senators' delegation were angered by pronouncements by U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman about what he called New Zealand's outrageous conduct and remarks by the new U.S. ambassador to Australia, Laurence Lane, who said that New Zealand should be punished for what he claimed were its violations of its commitments to the ANZUS bloc.

SOVIET-VIETNAMESE FRIENDSHIP MEETING HELD

BK091712 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 9 -- A get-together was held in Moscow on February 7 by the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society in honour of Vietnam's lunar new year festival. Present were M.N. Smirnovski, deputy head of the International Commission of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee; I.B. Bernov, vice president of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; V.V. Sutrov and Y.V. Toksuyev, vice presidents of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society; and Dinh Nho Liem, Vietnamese ambassador to the Soviet Union. Speaking on this occasion, Vice President Toksuyev affirmed the Soviet Union's wholehearted support for the Vietnamese people in national construction and defence, and for the three Indochines countries' proposals of goodwill at their ministerial foreign conference held in Vientiane recently. For his part, Ambassador Dinh Nho Liem expressed sincere thanks to the Soviet Union for its support and assistance to the Vietnamese people. He stressed the full support of the Vietnamese people for the Soviet Union's peace initiatives put forward by party leader M.S. Gorbachev in his January 15 statement.

SOVIET-PRK SUCCESSES SPARK ENEMIES' ANIMOSITY

PM031037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Article by Ye. Fadeyev: "Despite Provocation"]

[Text] Having marked the seventh anniversary of its liberation from the bloody Pol Pot clique, the PRK [People's Republic of Kampuchea] confidently continues to follow the path of its national rebirth. A great deal has been done and is still being done to restore and develop the national economy, as well as in the social and cultural spheres. The land areas sown under rice exceed 1.3 million hectares. The peasants are uniting in groups of mutual production assistance. There are now more than 100,000 such groups. The number of cattle has increased to 2 million in comparison to 1 million in 1979. The use of 26,000 hectares of hevea plantations has been resumed. In over 1 year more than 78,000 metric tons of semi-finished rubber products have been produced.

In industry, 58 enterprises and thousands of small workshops have been restored and are in operation. The number of medical workers is now more than 9,000 against 605 in 1979. As many as 95 percent of children today have the chance to learn. Trade between the PRK and the USSR, the SRV [Socialist Republic of Vietnam], and other countries has reached a volume significant for the republic.

The internal situation in the PRK has stabilized. Everywhere the interests of various strata of the population in state administration is evident. Various mass social organizations are gathering momentum.

The decisions of the recent Fifth Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party (KPRP) Congress, which adopted the first 5-year program for further restoration and comprehensive social and economic development, are renewed confirmation of loyalty to the chosen course of peaceful construction and fulfillment of the topical tasks facing the republic today.

The Cambodian revolution has grown stronger and its potential for defending its achievements with its own forces and rebuffing those who attempt to impede the process of regeneration has increased. In a word, the achievements of the young republic -- if one recalls that the country was virtually razed to the ground -- are impressive.

But it has long been observed that the more appreciable the successes of the PRK, the more animosity and hatred it arouses in its enemies.

So it is now. Enemies of the new Cambodia have stepped up their false propaganda, striving to discredit both the people's power in raising the country out of ruins and chaos and the assistance given by friends of the PRK. For example, the Chinese information media have compiled some open letters from the Cambodian people. These anonymous letters are being disseminated in the name of the infamous "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea," which has neither its own territory, nor its own population, nor its own capital. These attempts would seen laughable if they did not always pursue the same aim -- to inflate the so-called "Cambodian problem."

In this respect they do not even feel ashamed at resorting to total distortion of the situation in the PRK and to wittingly slandering the processes taking place there today in order to justify the evil and arbitrary rule or, to put it briefly, the genocide perpetrated under the government of the Pol Pot clique in Cambodia, as if jokingly, called "democratic." With this aim they do not balk at making extensive use of the myth of the "Vietnamese threat."

"Cambodia has long since become hell," the Chinese information media claim, for example.

In an attempt to justify Pol Pot's crimes and vindicate the butchers, they have even gone so far as to say that "the policy of genocide and mass destruction of the Cambodian people was carried out not by the government of democratic Cambodia, but by the Vietnamese authorities."

As if the brutal aphorism of Pol Pot, the "leader of the nation," had never existed: "One million Cambodians are sufficient for us to build a new society." The whole world knows the result of the sadistic "experiment" with "unnecessary" people: 3 million dead, 200,000 orphans, 90 percent of the intelligentsia destroyed, 207 of the 2,300 teachers left alive, more than 35,000 workers and state employees and more than 100,000 students tortured, and more than 141,000 Cambodians left as cripples and invalids for the rest of their lives.

Those leaders of the criminal genocidal regime who survived retribution sometimes came out with regrets that they did not succeed in bringing the "experiment" to its conclusion. Ieng Sary, sentenced to death in 1979 together with Pol Pot by the people's revolutionary tribunal and today walking free and paying visits to "friends," proclaims that there were mistakes, yes, but can one avoid excesses when building an unprecedented society? -- The whole problem was that we acted too slowly." He is echoed by one of the leaders of the "coalition," Khieu Samphan, who was president under Pol Pot: "If we had had enough time our efforts would have borne fruit...."

Yes, it is no accident that support for the Pol Pot followers comes from those forces which are against stabilization of the PPK's real people's power and against the rebirth of the suffering land after its concentrated holocaust and the nightmare of Pol Pot. Support for hold-outs [nedobitki] of various hues, the constant arming of Thailand, the recent allocation by the Reagan administration -- directly and openly, bypassing the CIA -- of $3.5 million for the "rebels" -- all these instances are links in the same chain of undeclared war against the PRK.

Today the U.S. Administration and Western propaganda media, which very recently called the Pol Pot followers "the most malicious violators of human rights," "obscurantists," but have now renamed them "fighters for freedom," lament for "a people who have suffered so much and who are being deprived of the possibility of preserving their existence."

Washington's hypocrisy knows no bounds! As if even before Pol Pot's darkness there were not 600,000 Khmers who perished and 2 million left dead as a result of the aggression unleashed by the Pentagon against this very nation. As if there had been no spraying of U.S. toxic chemicals which turned four-fifths of the Cambodian paddy fields and forests into a desert.

Forces hostile to the PRK, which are trying to reanimate political corpses, are unremitting in their attempts to force the situation in the region and kindle confrontation between the states of Indochina and the ASEAN countries. False propaganda about the situation inside the PRK and about its political course in its relations with neighboring Southeast Asian states is a component part of this provocative stirring. Hence the rejection of the peace-loving, constructive proposals made by Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia for forming a zone of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. Proposals recently confirmed afresh in Vientiane, at a scheduled conference of the three fraternal countries's foreign ministers. Elimination of disputes at the negotiations table, settlement of Cambodia's problems by the Cambodian people themselves without outside interference, reaching reconciliation on the basis of removal of the Pol Pot clique -- this is a realistic course leading to an improvement of the situation in the region.

"The successes of the young revolutionary power are disquieting to the enemies of the PRK, who are trying to overthrow it by various means," Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK State Council, said recently.

"These attempts are futile. Our revolution has one task: To reliably defend our national independence, restore the economy, ensure material well-being and a happy life for the people, and, at the same time, to gradually accumulate the means for building socialism in the beautiful land of Angkor. We are full of optimism and firmly believe that we will ultimately triumph."

Yes, the Cambodian problem is being solved by the Cambodian people themselves. Resolved definitively and irrevocably. And no voices or supporting voices from the other world, no intrigues or slander by enemies, no hypocritical, provocative stirring will force the Khmer people to deviate from their chosen path. Relying on assistance from their real friends, they are building a new, sovereign, independent, peaceful republic. Building it with confidence and optimism.

PRK'S HUN SEN INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PROGRAM

LD132253 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A regular session of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has ended in Phnom Penh.

The republic's leaders, Comrades Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, Hun Sen and others, and representatives of Cambodia's every province took part in the work of the supreme body of state authority in the country. They summed up the country's socioeconomic development and defined tasks for the coming year. A special place at the session was occupied by the adoption of a statement in support of the Soviet peace program.

This is what Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers, said in an interview:

[Begin Hun Sen recording in Cambodian fading into Russian translation] The Cambodian people, along with the entire progressive mankind, resolutely oppose nuclear war, the danger of which is being forced by the United States of America. It is necessary to end the arms race on earth and prevent its speed into space. The peace program proposed by the Soviet Union fully accomplishes this task and earns the support of all those concerned about mankind's future. [end recording]

U.S. 'EAGER' TO CONCEAL MICRONESIA 'ANNEXATION'

LD140840 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] New York February 14 TASS - A fact-finding mission from the U.N. Trusteeship Council has left for Palau to "observe" the plebiscite there on February 21 on the issue of a "free association" between that part of Micronesia and the United States. The decision to send the mission there was adopted by the majority of Western countries in the council, rubber-stamping a proposal made by the United States which is eager to cover up in this way Micronesia's annexation.

These maneuvers have caused indignation among the international public protesting the perpetuation of Micronesia's effectively colonial status and its position as a U.S. strategic military base in the Pacific at a time when anti-nuclear sentiments are mounting in the region.

YUGOSLAV WAR CRIMINAL RETURNS TO SFRY FROM U.S.

LD140022 Moscow TASS in English 2358 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin:

Justice has finally triumphed, TANJUG News Agency has stressed in its report that Yugoslav war criminal Andrija Artukovic, whose hands are stained with the blood of anti-fascists, has been brought to Belgrade from the United States.

Artukovic lived in the United States since 1951. Way back at that time, the Yugoslav Government demanded the immediate extradition of the "Croatian Himmler", the nickname he got for particular brutality, to face trial.

Washington rejected the legitimate demand. And it made the reply only eight years after the request, and despite the fact that the Yugoslav documents enumerated 1,239 cases of the killings of civilians on the direct order from Artukovic who served as "interior minister" in the puppet government of traitor Pavelic.

Only several years ago, bowing to world public pressure, the U.S. authorities launched an inquiry into the Artukovic case. The court passed a verdict of guilty. But the execution of the sentence was postponed. This was due to the fact that the Nazi criminal served for a long time at the Central Intelligence Agency as "expert on East European countries." The "Croatian Himmler" will now face trial in Yugoslavia.

But what about other war criminals from other countries who found shelter in the United States after the war? According to American press reports, they number about ten thousand. Well-known lawyer John Loftus, in his book "The Belarus Secret", reveals that the U.S. State Department used after the war the services of at least four thousand Nazi criminals members of SS-units who took part in massacres of civilians in the cities of Minsk, Smolensk and Vitebsk. How many more Nazi criminals enjoyed patronage of the American authorities?

What is the reason for the strange connivance on the part of the American authorities? Practically all American intelligence services, including the Policy Coordination Department, Loftus stresses in his book, used former Nazi emigrants for espionage in Europe during the cold war period. They were also used in ideological subversive operations against the USSR and other socialist countries.

Those who killed, destroyed, raped and burnt now act in the United States as advocates of "human rights" and are actively engaged in other anti-Soviet campaigns. Vasily "Bazil" Artyushenko who personally gunned down forty Soviet citizens is still hiding in the United States. Irrefutable evidence on Artyushenko was handed over to the American judiciary way back in 1978. But no information was supplied on the decision taken by them. No reply came to the notes by the Soviet Foreign Ministry raising the issue of the extradition to the Soviet authorities of Bolislav Maiskovkis. He took part in several mass excutions of Soviet citizens, and was in charge of a punitive operation in which about 300 inhabitants of the village of Audrini were killed.

The matter is not apparently reduced to the criminals' services to the CIA. The Washington crusaders who want to aggravate the international situation and spiral the arms race need these people. They keep betting on the Hitlerite butchers in subversive actions against socialist countries. Washington needs them as pawns in its dirty anti-Soviet game.

CSSR FOREIGN MINISTER ON GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

PM121525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek: "A Chance That Must Not Be Missed"]

[Text] Prague, 10 Feb -- The Czechoslovak public, just like people of goodwill in all countries and continents, welcomes the USSR's far-reaching new peace initiatives on nuclear disarmament. We regard them as pivotal to the solution of the most burning problems concerning all mankind, to the choice between peace and war, detente and confrontation. The people of Czechoslovakia, a country located in such an important region as central Europe, fully support the voice of reason and wise statesmanship which again rang out from Moscow.

Yes, Czechoslovakia welcomes and supports the policy of good example, as demonstrated with particular clarity in the extraordinarily important program for nuclear disarmament through the year 2000. The CSSR regards it as a clear and unequivocal answer to the categorical demand of the epoch. The resolution of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the CSSR Government on the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, notes that it is a package of new proposals expressing the immutable peaceable essence of the Soviet Union's policy. These generally comprehensible and profoundly humane proposals testify to the highest measure of responsibility for the future of the human civilization.

The Soviet Union has submitted to the world, and primarily to the United States, a universal disarmament project based on the principle of equal security of the sides. It is a concretization of the clear and consistent line of the CPSU as proclaimed at the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and developed in the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program. We share the view which represents the philosophical essence of this document, namely, no matter how great a threat to peace is posed by the aggressive imperialist circles, world war is not fatally inevitable. It is still possible to avert it and to save mankind from catastrophe. In this lies the historic mission of socialism and of all the progressive, peace-loving forces of the world.

We understand the new Soviet initiatives contained in M.S. Gorbachev's statement of 15 January this year as a scientifically substantiated master plan for a step-by-step solution -- in three stages -- of virtually all the key disarmament problems. These proposals make it possible to rid the world of nuclear weapons, not by means of the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative," so very dangerous and inordinately costly, but by means of eliminating existing nuclear arms, provided that both the USSR and the United States refrain from the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms. The Soviet proposals clearly define ways and suggest specific deadlines for achieving accords.

Time does not stand still. In the prevailing situation what is needed is not just declarations of goodwill and assurances of devotion to the cause of peace, but, first and foremost, practical actions in favor of this cause. The "spirit of Geneva" will not survive unless it is revitalized with specific steps expressing its essence; it will become a phantom. We therefore highly value the fact that the USSR's new proposals are consistent with the traditions of the Leninist international policy as a decisive factor for preserving peace. They are a continuation and development of the principled line of the CPSU and the entire Soviet people to do all in their power to rid the world of the danger of nuclear death.

The significance of the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee lies in the fact that it combines mobilizing perspectives with a concrete plan for their realization. It is quite natural that this document has attracted tremendous attention and evoked a great positive response to the concrete Soviet proposals.

The statement simultaneously serves as a convincing reply to U.S. plans to launch a new round in the nuclear arms race by spreading these arms to space. The Soviet document puts forward an alternative to the "star wars" program. The USSR, as M.S. Gorbachev again confirmed in his interview to L'HUMANITE, unswervingly seeks to ensure equal security for all, by means of arms reduction and disarmament right up to the complete elimination of all types of mass destruction weapons. A legitimate question comes to mind: How is it possible to strengthen international security by creating [sozdaniye] new types of weapons and by further armament? On the contrary, a natural precondition for the elimination of nuclear weapons is the banning of space strike arms. Blocking the solution of the problem of space by implementing the "star wars" program indicates an unwillingness to end the nuclear arms race on earth.

An important factor on the path toward reducing nuclear weapons would be the adoption of the Soviet proposal for a moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which would preclude the possibility of creating [sozdavat] new generations of nuclear weapons, including space weapons. Whereas the rejection of this measure would result in a further arms buildup.

On the question of nuclear disarmament, the problem of verification [kontrol] is extraordinarily important. In the past, Western powers have used this issue quite unjustifiably to block progress in this sphere. We therefore highly value the clear confirmation of the invariable Soviet position. The USSR is no less interested in verification than all the others, and agrees to it being carried out by national as well as international technical means, including on-site inspection [v tom chisle i na meste]. But it must be a question of verification of disarmament and not of armament, as the West would have it.

The USSR's statement also gives concrete expression to other accords contained in the Soviet-U.S. joint document adopted in Geneva. It puts forward a program for the elimination of chemical weapons. It adds impetus to the advancement of the cause of the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces and the enhancement of the effectiveness and intensification of bilateral and multilateral disarmament talks. The statement also touches on other important issues Furthermore, everything the USSR proposes is in the nature of realistic and phased steps. The main thing is to show good political will to achieve progress.

Europe is to occupy a special place in the implementation of the extensive package of proposals aimed at achieving a fundamental breakthrough in favor of the policy of peace. Our continent has already set an example of a new approach to questions of peace, cooperation, and international trust. I have in mind the contribution made to detente by CSCE. On countless occasions lately we have been able to see for ourselves the viability of detente and the interest shown in reviving it. Now new impetus must be added to this process, new life must be breathed into it in all spheres and through the efforts of all its participants.

We welcome the circumstances that the USSR's counterproposals aimed at achieving progress at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe point in this same direction. The CSSR supports the proposition that it is necessary right now to reduce the numerical strength of forces taking part in large-scale land and air force exercises.

It seems that at the Vienna talks an outline of a possible solution to the reduction of Soviet and U.S. forces and the subsequent freezing of the level of Warsaw Pact and NATO armed forces in central Europe is emerging.

Czechoslovakia believes quite unequivocally that if the United States and its Western allies act as responsibly as the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, this will make it possible to improve the international situation and resolve complex international problems. We know that it is not easy to achieve this, but we are convinced that the peace policy of the Soviet Union and the entire fraternal community and the mounting efforts of peace-loving and realistically minded people throughout the world will make it possible to preserve peace for current and future generations.

Czechoslovakia will continue to play an active part in this struggle. We are prepared to spare no effort to contribute to the implementation of the new Soviet proposals so that the tremendous chance they offer mankind is taken and so that people can enter the new millennium confidently and without fear for their existence.

BCP OFFICIAL ON SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL REVOLUTION

PM111214 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by Yordan Yotov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chief editor of the newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO: "Toward New Horizons"]

[Text] I

Two months separate us, Bulgarian Communists, and all of our people from the forthcoming 13th BCP Congress. The date on which it will open -- 2 April 1986 -- was set by the January plenum of our party's Central Committee held several days ago.

Preparation for the congress in fact began with the February BCP Central Committee Plenum and is now in full swing. Two basic demands now mobilize our attention and efforts -- to soberly and accurately evaluate what has been done in the course of fulfilling the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress and to realistically map out the tasks and prospects for the country's economic, social, political, and cultural development for the 9th 5-Year Plan and, in the basic points, up to the beginning of the next century. Despite the unfavorable international conditions engendered by imperialism's actions, despite the unusual drought of the last 3 years, and thanks to our people's selfless work the social and economic tasks set by the 12th congress are being successfully fulfilled.

We can say with satisfaction that the basic line of our party's policy, which was adopted at its April plenum in 1956 -- "All in the name of man, all for the good of man" -- is being implemented actively and successfully. The good of the individual is the supreme law and criterion of development of our socialist society.

Building mature socialism poses for our party and society new demands and tasks. Their successful fulfillment demands the development of intensive and creative theoretical work to form integral coverage both of the basic problems and of practical approaches to building the developed socalist society. Our party considers this activity, implemented on the basis of Marxist-Leninist principles, to be an absolutely essential component of its historic struggle to achieve great communist ideals.

The new problems and approaches at the center of our scientific and theoretical work are set out in the Central Committee's report at the 12th BCP Congress, in lectures by Comrade Todor Zhivkov to students and lecturers at the BCP Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences and Social Administration, and in a number of his speeches and reports given at various party, social, and economic forums.

The ideas contained in them are the result of creative efforts to formulate and fulfill the decisions of the 12th congress and, at the same time, are an indivisible part of preparation for the forthcoming 13th congress. In the article brought to the attention of the Soviet reader, we deal with basic scientific and theoretical developments directly connected with the forthcoming congress. They were first developed in the materials of the BCP Central Committee February (1985) Plenum.

II

Having discussed the report by Todor Zhivkov "On Some New Views and Approaches in the Development and Implementation of Bulgarian Scientific and Technical Policy," the BCP Central Committee February Plenum established that gigantic changes have taken place in the development of productive forces and production relations, and in the sphere of the basis and superstructure. In addition to this, it noted that the effect of objective laws in the building of mature socialist society have been allowed to be underestimated. This has led to a lag in altering and improving the superstructure.

In his opening address at the plenum, the BCP Central Committee general secretary indicated the objective laws acquiring decisive significance at the present stage of socialist building.

The first and basic law is to carry out the scientific and technical revolution, on which the manifestation and development of other laws connected with successfully building mature socialism in our country depends to the greatest degree.

The second law is to improve socialist social relations, which will make it possible to create the most favorable conditions and prerequisites for developing productive forces on the basis of utilizing the latest achievements of the scientific and technical revolution.

The third law is connected with the specific effect of the cost law and the role of commodity-money relations under socialism. The specific effect of the cost law under socialism is "objective and, as historical experience shows, everyone who attempts to disregard this law or replace it with administrative measures pays dearly."

The fourth law concerns the growing role of the popular masses as the creators of history. This is demanded by the further development of socialist democracy and by the improvement of our society's political system.

The February BCP Central Committee Plenum reached the categorical conclusion that "the scientific and technical revolution is the key -- the superkey, moreover -- to our social and economic development" and that "under present conditions, carrying out a scientific and technical revolution means building a developed socialist society. Conversely, building developed socialism in our country means carrying out a scientific and technical revolution."

As a social phenomenon, the scientific and technical revolution is an objective historical process embracing all aspects of social life and all strata of the population. It has its own internal laws and trends, and they must be well mastered in order to ensure the successful development of this revolution.

One of the most important and vital laws of the scientific and technical revolution is science's increasingly full development into a productive force. From this it follows that favorable conditions must be created for the all-around development of science itself. Science would not be able to rise to the level of its historically conditioned task if it is not ensured the place it is due in the social hierarchy and if it is not freed of all kinds of factors retarding its development.

There is, however, another side to the question. The development of science is becoming increasingly directly dependent on the "hunger" for science products [nauchnaya produktsiay] that exists in society and primarily in the physical production sphere. Without this "hunger" it is impossible to historically merge the revolution in science with the revolution in technology to produce a single social process, which is the essence of the scientific and technical revolution. Consequently, the resolution of the question of turning science into a direct productive force can only be a comprehensive one and must become a matter for the whole of society.

Taking this circumstance into account, the BCP Central Committee general secretary said in his speech: "In order to open the doors wide to this law, we must make a breakthrough in the state apparatus from top to bottom, a breakthrough in the economic apparatus, a breakthrough in state planning and financing, a breakthrough in the state retooling of scientific work, and a breakthrough in the bureaucratic superstructure of the party apparatus -- a breakthrough toward science. In a word -- we need a breakthrough across the entire front."

Another important law of the scientific and technical revolution is thorough, comprehensive integration in technology development. Domination of the sector principle was characteristic of technology in the period before the scientific and technical revolution. With the explosive development of technology in the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, however, the same kind of scientific and technical solutions keep appearing, common characteristics in their substance are revealed, and their common technological base is expanding. This means that, with the development of modern technology, there is an intensive process of objective standardization and of thorough, all-embracing integration. It is important to make use of these integrational processes in the development and implementation of a unified technical policy corresponding to the requirements of the scientific and technical revolution.

The constant renewal and enrichment of production's energy and raw materials base and the introduction of new energy and material sources with preset qualities are a natural trend in the scientific and technical revolution. Using scientific achievements and the potential of modern technology allows us to create a qualitatively new raw material base and turn Bulgaria from a poor country into a country rich in raw and other materials.

Important trends of the scientific and technical revolution come to light in the sphere of educating, training, and improving executive and leadership cadres. The scientific and technical revolution is not and cannot be a matter for the administrative elite alone. It must become the business of millions of people, all the people. Hence the necessity to train specialists with great ideological, political, moral, professional, and general cultural abilities, and to raise the level of education and qualification of workers, agricultural workers, and all strata of our society.

The scientific and technical revolution manifests no less important trends in the sphere of socialist integration. Hence the need to comprehensively deepen and enrich our cooperation and integration in science and production with other socialist countries, and primarily with the Soviet Union, whose science and technology have powerful industrial and cadre potential, have achieved great success in a number of important directions, and are in the front ranks of world scientific and technical progress.

There is no more reliable and sure a guarantee of our scientific and technical front's successful development than merging it still more closely and organically with the Soviet scientific and technical front.

The recent friendly visit to our country by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, his talks with Todor Zhivkov, and his meeting with Sofia machine builders were a new and great manifestation of socialist internationalism and also a clear manifestation of fruitful Bulgarian-Soviet friendship. The Sofia summit dialogue revealed new, still broader prospects for scientific and technical cooperation between our fraternal countries on the basis of the major achievements of scientific and technical progress.

The new edition of the CPSU Program, which will be approved at the 27th party congress, is an essential political and theoretical compass orienting Soviet society toward the highest peaks of the scientific and technical revolution, the most reliable compass in improving socialism and building communism. This exceptionally important document is a new, creative development of Marxist-Leninist theory and has international significance. For us, Bulgarian Communists, it creates a magnificent platform for fruitful, comprehensive cooperation under specific contemporary historical conditions.

Revealing the aforementioned basic laws and natural trends in the building of developed socialist society at the new stage of scientific and technical progress, the BCP stresses the necessity for a fundamental turnabout in the thinking, approaches, and actions of each and everyone.

Life demands that the goals and tasks emanating from the scientific and technical revolution form the basis of our systematic development and of our state policy. The state plan itself must become a plan for scientific and technical progress ensuring optimum conditions for the country's social and economic development.

Life demands an improvement in selective scientific strategy and in integral scientific organization so as to ensure, on the one hand, the ongoing development of priority science sectors and, on the other, to prevent laggardness in other areas of science. Particular significance in the implementation of the scientific and technical revolution at this stage is acquired by the assertion of the state and social principle in the management of science and scientific and technical progress.

The initial position and leitmotiv of our approaches and practical actions is our belief that the scientific and technical revolution has decisive significance in every sphere of our social life -- economic, political, ideological -- as well as our awareness that "without a scientific and technical revolution there can be neither 'mature' nor 'immature' socialism in Bulgaria."

III

The scientific and technical revolution is the cause of millions of working people. That is why the BCP attaches paramount importance to the role and action of democratic centralism while this revolution is being carried out.

This fundamental Leninist principle, which is indispensable in our party's theory and practice, is not and cannot be frozen and immobile. Both its content and its forms change, depending on the condition of the party and society, the stage of their development, the aims set, and the tasks they resolve.

The necessity to increasingly actively and extensively involve the working people in the development of the scientific and technical revolution obviously demands constant improvement of the correlation between centralism and democracy.

Concrete measures to further develop and apply democratic centralism in the spirit of the decisions made by the BCP Central Committee February Plenum are developing in three main directions. The principle of democratic centralism must first be made to fully correspond to the aims and tasks set by the party in the sphere of the planning and management of scientific and technical progress.

This demands, first, that radical changes be made in the practical activity of all structures, that the correlation between their rights and responsibilities be regulated, and also that their interrelations be regulated.

Second, profound changes must be made in the organization and modes of operation of scientific and economic organs and structures so that they develop into self-regulating systems. After their targets have been set and the resources for their being met have been ensured, each of them will have to have the necessary rights and responsibility to fulfill the program incumbent on it. The leading functions of the corresponding higher organs and organizations will be reflected in their supervision, monitoring, and evaluation of the results of work done. Under these conditions the correct correlation will have to be established between the two components of democratic centralism and, on this basis, socialist democracy developed, while simultaneously strengthening one-man management and centralism.

Third, the question arises of establishing new economic relations between the individual, as the basic productive force, and the means of production, between the individual and the state, and between the participants in the production process under the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution. Economic relations and mechanisms must be formed such as would create and sustain firm interests both among leaders and executors, and in leading organs and labor collectives. Achieving success in carrying out the scientific and technical revolution is inconceivable if the interests of all strata of the population are not taken into account and if the proper combination and single direction of social, collective, and individual interests is not ensured. Hence the necessity to make profound and vital changes in the current economic mechanism which will ensure consistent implementation of the socialist principle of work being remunerated according to its quantity and quality. What is more, the basic idea of the new economic mechanism demands precisely the combination and single direction of individual and social interests.

In this connection there arises a vital need to improve socialism's political system and bring it in line with the new conditions and tasks. It is essential to create forms of socialist power that will still more fully ensure the conditions and guarantees for extensive participation by the working people in the development of important decisions made by state and social organs and organizations. This will create the conditions for the comprehensive development of the people's creative initiative and for new, major achievements in building a developed socialist society on Bulgarian soil.

There is no doubt that the 13th BCP Congress will raise party thinking to a still higher level and that it will adopt the necessry scientifically substantiated and politically advisable decisions. In the course of carrying out the scientific and technical revolution, the party's creative ideas will develop and be further enriched and new theoretical conclusions and generalizations will emerge. This is because life and the practice of socialist building will set us more and more new tasks and open up broader horizons. It is also because revolutionary renewal and the people's well-being are the meaning and historical justification of the great communist cause.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP PROTOCOL SIGNED

PM131415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent O.O. Losoto: "Forty Thousand Guests"]

[Text] Warsaw, 12 Feb -- A protocol has been signed here on cooperation between the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society [TPP-R] and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society for 1986.

"This document," S. Wronski, chairman of the TPP-R, says, "provides for a number of specific measures aimed at intensifying our fraternal pcoples' collaboration and expanding cultural, scientific, and tourist exchange. A large place in the document is assigned to the propagnada of the precongress documents of the CPSU and PZPR and the new Soviet peace initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"This year about 40,000 Polish citizens are to visit the USSR through TPP-R channels. In turn Poland's recently created "Kalinka" tourist bureau will receive Soviet tourists. Exhibitions will be opened and meetings and encounters will be held to mark the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress. In 1986-1987 friendship and cooperation will be carried on at industrial enterprises. Preparation for the next Soviet song festival in Zielona Gora has been launched everywhere.

"Fraternal cooperation," S. Wronski said in conclusion, "it is guarantee of our successful headway."

ECONOMIC COOPERATION MEETING WITH FINLAND OPENS

LD140013 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1852 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Helsinki, 13 Feb (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Gorbunov reports:

A seminar devoted to development prospects in trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Finland has been held at the House of Soviet Culture and Science here representatives of the Central Party, Finnish business circles and Soviet foreign-trade organizations took part.

Finland's Foreign Minster Paavo Bayrynen greeted the participants. He emphasized that the multifaceted relations between the USSR and Finland were developing fruitfully on the firm basis of the 1948 Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. An important part in these is played by trade and economic cooperation. Vayrynen expressed his conviction that the seminar would promote an extension in the mutually beneficial contacts between two countries.

Having noted the successful development of bilateral business contacts in the last 5-year period, E. Ollila, finance minister and first deputy chairman of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish commission for economic cooperation, emphasized that the fulfillment of the agreement on goods turnover and payments for 1986-90 envisaged further growth in mutual trade and increasing imports from the Soviet Union, in particular of machinery and equipment.

The participants in the meeting noted that the expansion of trade and economic contacts served the strengthening of Soviet-Finnish relations which were based on trust.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH DENMARK

PM051619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ties Developing"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 2 Feb — The 15th session of the Soviet-Danish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation has been held here.

The commission noted the mostly positive development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries and the existence of favorable prospects for its expansion.

An amplified long-term plan for economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Denmark was approved during the session. It includes specific Soviet-Danish cooperation projects in various sectors of industry and agriculture, and it creates good preconditions for the development of cooperation between the two countries.

In this connection the sides discussed the question of possibly supplementing and expanding the long-term program for the development of economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Denmark of 16 June 1978 with the inclusion in it, in particular, of the main provisions of the aforesaid plan, as well as possible additional cooperation projects. A number of contracts were signed for the delivery of various types of equipment to the USSR.

The Soviet delegation was headed by N.N. Smelyakov, chairman of the Soviet side of the commission and USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and the Danish delegation by A. Christiansen, chairman of the Danish side of the commission and chairman of the Danish Committee for Economic and Industrial Cooperation.

SWEDISH PAPER ON CRITICISM OF 'MILITARY CIRCLES'

PM131447 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 12 Feb 86 p 19

[Harald Hamrin dispatch: "Soviet Criticism: Hostile Campaign in Sweden"]

[Text] Moscow -- Yesterday the Soviet Union escalated its criticism of Sweden for the "anti-Soviet campaign" being carried on in the Swedish press and elsewhere. The criticism was directed in particular against "military circles" in Sweden who voiced a "hostile" attitude toward the Soviet Union. The criticism was voiced by Soviet Foreign Ministry deputy press spokesman Vladimir Morozov and took the form of a reply to a question that had been submitted to the Foreign Ministry. This was perhaps -- although this was not stated clearly -- a reply to a question from DAGENS NYHETER's correspondent some 2 weeks ago which at the time received a shorter reply from another Soviet Foreign Ministry official. Morozov began by saying that Swedish-Soviet relations are "on the whole" developing positively and that Soviet policy takes as its point of departure the principles of total respect for Sweden's territorial integrity and mutual respect.

"However, at the same time it is possible to note certain negative aspects in Swedish-Soviet relations," Morozov said, pointing out that "representatives of certain circles" in Sweden are continuing "a campaign hostile to the Soviet Union which slows down the development of stronger relations."

Morozov pointed in particular to "Swedish military circles" as the guilty parties in this "unfriendly" campaign in which, for example, there are assertions that Soviet vessels violate Sweden's territorial integrity and in which "attempts are made to alarm the population with talk of an imaginary Soviet threat."

"It cannot but cause surprise that representatives of the Swedish military leadership also take part in such an anti-Soviet campaign," Morozov said, referring perhaps to certain statements by Defense Staff chief Bror Stefenson. "The military leadership above all ought to be fully aware that Soviet vessels do not violate Sweden's territorial waters."

Morozov's statement, which was delivered from a written version, also said that it was "remarkable" that "the new anti-Soviet campaign, which is supported by right-wing circles and their newspapers " should ge allowed to develop at the very time that it is possible to note "clearly discernible progress as far as an improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and Sweden is concerned." In an allusion to Prime Minister Palme's visit to the Soviet Union at the beginning of April, Morozov said that the Swedish "campaign" is all the more unfortunate since it is taking place at a time when "important visits" are at hand.

SWEDISH VACATIONERS TO HELP HUNT SOVIET SUBMARINES

LD132357 Moscow International Service in Swedish 1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[(Oleg Okulovskiy) commentary]

[Text] Good evening. When I listened to Swedish radio yesterday, I heard with interest that the Navy has seriously decided to take up organizing vacations for the Swedes.

It was stated in the news review that the Navy Staff has prepared 2,000 posters which will be displayed in the coastal areas this spring and summer. These posters give good advice to vacationers on how to find and hunt foreign submarines on Swedish beaches. At the same time the imaginative Navy offers the vacationers an entertainment program: films about mysterious submarines. The Navy show will probably be called: "Catch a Submarine Yourself."

A vacation on the Swedish coast will now contain a great deal more than before. Last year vacationers sat down on the seashore to catch some little fish, whereas now, thanks to the Navy Staff, they have a chance to haul up a submarine. It is true that submarines are not very suitable for fish soup, but the submarines, which, according to SVENSKA DAGBLADET are swarming off the Swedish coast, have a special characteristic. The fish soup from these submarines remains strong as they stay in the water. Therefore they are not fished out from there, as you probably have noticed. The soup itself has a clear anti-Soviet aftertaste. The longer the search for a submarine goes on, the stronger is the soup, and the longer one can imply a Soviet underwater threat.

It is very convenient, everything is under the water, and nothing is being seen. The press is chasing sensations, the military financial allocations. The more submarines that are not caught, the simpler it will be to complain about the shortage of funds. Both for the big press and the military the hunt for mythical submarines is a very serious and profitable affair, and not at all some kind of show, as some may think.

This time everything indicates that both the press and the Navy have decided to prepare a strong fish soup from submarines, and all Swedish vacationers are to take part in its preparation.

ARMS REDUCTION ISSUES DISCUSSED WITH PORTUGAL

PM092025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR-Portugal: Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Lisbon, 7 Feb -- R.S. Ovinnikov, special representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry, visited here on 5-6 February.

He had meetings and talks with Freitas do Amaral, president of the Assembly of the Republic, and with Foreign Minister P. Pires de Miranda, as well as at the Portuguese Foreign Ministry's Political Department on questions of arms reduction and disarmament on the basis of the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of 15 January this year. The meetings and talks took place in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere.

V.P. Vdovin, USSR ambassador to Portugal, participated in them.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN CITED ON GULF WAR

Need To End Conflict

JN131530 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A press spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry has affirmed the need to end the Iraq-Iran war and resort to resolving existing problems through negotiations. Sukhin, deputy head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, informed newsmen today of his country's previous stand that this war is exhausting the energies of the two countries and harming their economies. He stressed the need to halt all military operations and to resort to peaceful methods.

Discusses Ties With Iran, Iraq

AU131515 Paris AFP in English 1509 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, Feb 13 (AFP) -- Moscow is ready to develop neighborly relations" with Iran, but would still stand by its 1972 cooperation treaty with Iraq, a Soviet spokesman said today.

Valeriy Sukhin, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, called the Gulf conflict "a bloody and absurd tragedy: and urged an end to the fighting "as quickly as possible". He said Moscow would continue to "fulfill its obligations" under terms of the friendship and cooperation treaty it signed with Iraq.

On other issues, Mr Sukhin denounced what he called Iranian "interference" in internal affairs in Afghanistan, and supported the establishment of diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

Rejects Occupation, Expansion

LD131406 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1324 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow 13 Feb (KUNA) -- The Soviet Union today reaffirmed its "principled and firm" position to the Iraq-Iran war, calling for "a speedy ending to the armed conflict, and for resolving the two countries' problems around the negotiation table."

Valeriy Sukhin, deputy head of of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told newsmen that the Soviet position "was very well known to the two parties to the war and to all states of the world'"

Answering a question by a KUNA correspondent here on the Kremlin's position in light of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq, in the event of Iran occupying Iraqi territory, Sukhin said: "We do not want to discuss the situation from a hypothetical point of view, but the position of the Soviet Union is firm and principled, and rejects the policy of occupation and expansionism."

Sukhin said that "the treaty of friendship and cooperation offers firm and strong foundations for the strengthening of the relations and cooperation between Moscow and Baghdad in all fields." Sukhin affirmed that the Soviet Union and Iraq "were both still committed to the clauses of the treaty."

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN RULES OUT TIES WITH ISRAEL

LD132017 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1917 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet Union will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel since the motives which led to them being broken off have not been eliminated. The above was stated by Soviet Foreign Ministry official spokesman Valeriy Sukhin in a talk with newsmen in Moscow today. Setting out the Soviet stand, Sukhin said the Israeli government "had not checked its expansionism and reprisals against Arab neighbours." He termed the U.S. military manoeuvres in the Mediterranean and on South Korean territory "dangerous military games" and stressed that the Soviet Union "decisively condemns the latest U.S. provocation against Libya and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea." Sukhin warned Washington that such and similar U.S. actions were contrary to the interests and results of the U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva.

Replying to a question regarding the forthcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Washington, Sukhin stated that diplomatic preparations for the meeting were underway and that official Moscow had never questioned its taking place. Sukhin reiterated Moscow's stand that "no territorial border problem existed" between Japan and the Soviet Union since the existing borders were an "indisputable historical fact."

IRAN-IRAQ WAR REPORTS REMAIN 'CONTRADICTORY'

LD131854 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Reports coming in from the Iran-Iraq front remain contradictory. Tehran is reporting a combat offensive being waged by the Iranian Army on Iraqi soil. The Iraqi military command states that the Iranian offensive has been halted and has cost heavy losses on the Iranian side. It is still fairly difficult to form an objective, realistic picture of events taking place at the front.

Perhaps the only thing one can say is this: As a result of the Iranian general offensive, which was several months in the preparation and for which a substantial number of troops of the Iranian army were assembled, Iran has succeeded in advancing a little from its previously held positions. However, there is no evidence that the main objective of this offensive has been achieved or that Iraq has been dealt a blow that will determine the outcome of the war. The latest upsurge in military operations on the Iran-Iraq front has caused great anxiety among the countries of the region. A group of Arab states has demanded that the Security Council be urgently convened in connection with the events taking place.

PROTOCOL SIGNED FOLLOWING TALKS WITH KUWAIT

PM140957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Questions Discussed"]

[Text] Soviet-Kuwaiti talks on questions of developing economic, trade, financial, scientific, and technical cooperation ended 11 February. During the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, note was made of the existence of favorable opportunities for the further development and deepening of bilateral cooperation in view of the high level of the two countries' economic potential, and the desire to expand Soviet-Kuwaiti cooperation in diverse spheres was expressed. A protocol was signed on the results of the talks. It was signed for the Soviet side by K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and for the Kuwaiti side by 'Ali al-khalifah al-Sabah.

ZAMYATIN DISCUSSES MIDEAST PROBLEMS IN INTERVIEW

NC120835 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 11 Feb 86 pp 1, 12

["Text" of interview with Leonid Zamyatin, chief of the International Information Department of the Central Committee of the CPSU, by Paris correspondent Muna al-Sa'id -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Al-Sa'id] The U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva provided the opportunity for a number of interpretations with regard to the Middle East. May we know, first, what the outcome of the talks on this issue was and, second, what the current possibilities are for holding an international conference on the Middle East?

[Zamyatin] The Middle East problem was discussed in Geneva within the context of regional conflicts. The two parties declared their concern about the existence of "flashpoints" in the world. However, as Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out, our views on the causes of these conflicts and on how to deal with and solve them are directly opposed. At the same time, the Soviet and U.S. leaders recognized the need to hold regular political consultations on these issues.

Regarding the second part of your question, on the possibilities of holding an international conference on the Middle East, it is still our objective opinion that there is no obstacle to the holding of this international conference. This firm Soviet conviction was made clear in 1977 in the joint Soviet-U.S. communique on the Middle East, but the United States regrettably abandoned this position later. The Soviet proposals presented in July 1984 were very detailed, so much so that 1 week would have been enough to organize such a conference. But the United States and Israel are doing everything they can to torpedo it.

The U.S. Administration's behavior in regard to the Middle East continues to be far removed from the "spirit of Geneva." Washington persists in practicing a shortsighted policy that is hostile to the interests of the Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular. Is it reasonable to exclude the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, or to ignore the the question of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Palestinian territories, and to be content with merely offering a limited "administrative autonomy" to the Palestinians?

The fact is that the Americans can no longer overlook the wide support in the world and at the United Nations for an international conference on the Middle East. Thus, they are now talking about calling for "an international conference on the Middle East," but the conference's scope will be limited to endorsing a separate deal between Israel on one hand and certain Arab countries on the other. Since this idea is not initially easy to "market," they are only whispering about it. This U.S. version is completely contradictory to what the Soviet Union is proposing.

We have made every effort to formulate the aims and principles of a true international conference for a fundamental settlement in the Middle East. In my opinion, the United States must be approached and asked to set a date for such a conference. As for us, we are quite ready to attend tomorrow.

[Al-Saiid] There has been a great deal of talk in Western media about the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel and about the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. Conflicting statements on these issues have been made by a number of Israeli leaders. Where does the Soviet Union really stand?

[Zamyatin] This is not the first time I have been asked this question, despite the fact that our position has not changed. Rumours of this kind are intended to upset Soviet-Arab relations and give rise to doubts about Soviet policy. This is nothing new in Western and Israeli media. What we rather find difficult to understand is why some Arab papers, which purport to be serious and objective, disseminate such allegations.

Emigration from the Soviet Union, by Jews or any other citizens, is governed by Soviet legislation and by the UN international treaty signed in 1966. Like any other country, we impose restrictions on emigration. These restrictions have nothing to do with the religious beliefs of the applicants. The categories prevented from emigrating include those who have only recently completed their military service, those who are in possession of state secrets, those whose departure could adversely affect the rights of other citizens or of other members of their families, and those who are wanted in connection with criminal cases.

It has been noticed lately that the number of applications for emigration has declined, as has the actual number of those leaving. In 1984 and 1985, only 800 Soviet Jews left the country. The claim that an "exodus" of Soviet Jews is in the offing is an outright lie and an attempt to discredit Soviet Jews. Soviet Jews feel at home in their country. They do not wish to leave the Soviet Union.

Now, let us return to the issue of restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. There are reasons why these relations were severed. Some people would like these reasons to fade away into oblivion. I would like to recall that the Soviet Union took this measure after Israel launched its attack against Arab countries. The Israeli aggression has not yet ended. The Soviet Union has no reason for the moment to reconsider its position.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the Soviet stand on the recent developments in Lebanon and on the future of the tripartite agreement? How do you view the current situation in Lebanon and the future of this country?

[Zamyatin] The Lebanese tragedy which has been going on for well over 10 years illustrates what can happen to a sovereign state when it is arbitrarily drawn into the orbit of the vital interests of the United States and its allies. The partners in the U.S.-Israeli alliance continue to unscrupulously interfere in Lebanon's affairs. These partners bear the prime responsibility for the destruction, bloodshed, and pain that has afflicted the Lebanese and Palestinians alike. It is an established fact that Israel is still occupying a part of Lebanese territory and is still obstructing attempts to achieve national reconciliation in that country.

It is true to say that Lebanon is experiencing several serious internal contradictions, but we must discover the roots of these contradictions and whether they are the result of the colonialist period or of the new colonialist policy currently applied by the imperialist forces.

Naturally, our attitude toward the Lebanese problem encompasses all aspects of the situation. Lebanon must remain an independent united country within the Arab world. Starting from this premise, we take into consideration the issue of understanding between the religious groups and political parties. The Soviet Union sincerely supports the nationalist forces, which are concerned with the fate of the country and which are currently demonstrating a high degree of responsibility in their efforts to overcome the serious internal contradictions and to attain a national consensus. Therefore, if the situation is to be normalized, it is imperative that there be an immediate and total end to the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory, the violation of Lebanese skies, and foreign interference in the constructive dialogue among the Lebanese. Lebanon must remain free and unified.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the Soviet view of the situation in South Yemen?

[Zamyatin] The conflict which erupted in that country is purely internal and must be resolved as such without any foreign interference. However, we must express our regret for the tragic events there, particularly since they concern a friendly country with whom we have longstanding links of strong friendship. The people of the PDRY, [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen], under the YSP, [Yemen Socialist Party], have recently succeeded in making important advances in terms of national independence, national development, and the birth of a planned economy, as well as in terms of major social issues. However, the progress of the country along the Socialist path chosen by the Yemeni people is still encountering difficulties inherited from the colonialist era, such as the multi-structured economy and the tribal division of society.

Finally, we must not underestimate the effects of the hostile behavior of foreign reactionary and imperialist forces and their agents, who have endeavored to sabotage the progressive regime and weaken the leading role of the YSP and its relationship with the masses.

This was demonstrated by the recent events. On 24 January, the extradordinary meeting of the YSP Central Committee authorized the Politburo to take the necessary measures to stabilize the situation in the country. There is no doubt that the Yemeni people have the experience of vigorous struggle against colonialism and know how to resolve their complicated internal problems. We hope they will find the resources to restore order and defend the county's sovereignty against those who seek to benefit from their current difficulties.

BRIEFS

SYRIAN CP HEAD AWARDED -- By USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree, Comrade Yusuf Faysal, deputy secretary general of the Syrian Communist Party Central Committee has been awarded the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples for services in the struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress, for his contribution to strengthening friendship between the Soviet Union and Syria, and in connection with his 60th birthday. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 6 Feb 86 LD]

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR

LD131239 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, today received Isa Modibbo, the ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the USSR, at the latter's request. During the course of a friendly conversation, questions of bilateral relations, as well as certain topical international problems, including the situation on the African continent, were discussed. Comrade Shevardnadze drew the ambassador's attention to the latest Soviet foreign-policy initiatives, which were advanced in the 15 January statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During a discussion of the situation in Africa, it was stated from the Soviet side that the Soviet Union is resolutely and consistently in favor of the African peoples independently determining ways to their own development, and of Africa becoming a continent of peace, free of foreign military bases and nuclear weapons, and is against attempts by imperialism to turn that continent into an arena of military-political confrontation and internecine warfare.

WINNIE MANDELA SENDS 'MILITANT SALUTE' TO USSR

LD140247 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1120 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Aleksandr Osipov report]

[Text] Harare 13 Feb (TASS) -- "I have waited for long years personally to send my militant salute to the Land of the Soviets, to thank it for its fraternal solidarity." This is the way in which Winnie Mandela, one of the most prominent figures of the anti-racist movement in South Africa, the wife of the leader of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, began our telephone conversation from Johannesburg.

I want immediately, before the police secret agents cut us off, to express my accumulated thoughts and feelings, she stated. The Soviet Union is a torchbearer for all our hopes and aspirations. We have learned and are continuing to learn resilience and bravery from Soviet people, who are an example to us in our struggle for freedom, a model of loyalty to internationalist duty. In Soviet Russia genuine power of the people has been transformed from dreams into reality. The Land of the Soviets is the genuine friend and ally of all oppressed peoples fighting against the dark forces of world reaction.

South Africa patriots warmly welcome and support the peaceful proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev. These initiatives open up a straight path to the establishment of universal peace and security and the creation of conditions for the elimination of the dangerous seat of international tension in southern Africa, which takes the form of colonialism and racism. We are trying to attain this together with the USSR and all progressive mankind. Our struggle for freedom is indissolubly linked with the worldwide peace movement for which your great country is a standard bearer. Along with all the other peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples, we are leading the advance on the most heinous enemy of peace, imperialism, a policy which in our region is carried out by the criminal apartheid regime. Our just struggle has a humane aim -- the creation of a peace-loving, democratic state which would stand in the same rank along with all the forces of progress. Support by the Soviet people is of particularly important significance, inspiring us and giving us new strength.

I would like to stress that Nelson Mandela, in spite of long years of incarceration is, as before, full of vital strength and energy and will to defend the cause of the people to the victorious end, says W. Mandela, telling of her recent meeting with her husband in Cape Town prison. With him, we are all confident of the forthcoming collapse of the hateful apartheid regime and the establishment of a democratic state.

Absurd and risible are the plans put forward by the authorities to free my husband for so-called "humanitarian" considerations, linking this with conditions which it already knows to be unacceptable. Judging by everything, this sort of maneuver is suggested to Pretoria from outside, and the enslaved masses of our country reject them with indignation. N. Mandela is the national pride of the people of South Africa, a symbol of our heroic resistance. A prisoner of racism, he is an awe-inspiring accuser of the apartheid system and the irrefutable national leader.

The racist minority does not want to abandon its status as masters in our society and blindly continues its criminal practice of racial oppression. Our country has for a long time been under effective martial law. Militarist circles have essentially taken power and unleashed a veritable war against the working masses. They are carrying out bloody reprisals against the opponents of apartheid.

In these circumstances, the freedom fighters under the leadership of the ANC are closing ranks. They have no option but to respond to force with revolutionary force. But the responsibility for the situation which has come about lies squarely with the oppressors. I wish to lay special stress on the fact that the people are united in their desire to bring an end to the despised system of apartheid. We do not count, of course, the handful of appeasers, Africans who cooperate with the authorities, having betrayed the interests of their people and the cause of freedom.

Executioners commonly start talking about "humanitarianism" when they sense that scores are soon to be settled. That is precisely what the ringleaders of the regime are up to now. In order to divert people's attention they pontificate about "reforming" apartheid, without actually wishing to alter anything essential. The concept of so-called "improvement" is incompatible with the nature of apartheid, which has much in common with Nazism. Racism, like fascism, needs eradicating in the interests of all mankind.

One can only marvel at the courage of this patriot who showed no fear of the revenge the racists could mete out for talking to a Soviet journalist. Don't pay any attention to them and try and speak faster, was W. Mandela's calm advice when our conversation resumed after the line had been "disconnected" yet another time. "We are carrying out instructions from above," replied the switchboard operator in Johannesburg to the TASS correspondents protest.

BOGDIYEV VIEWS PRELUDE TO NEW CHAD INTERVENTION

LD132012 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- By TASS commentator Boris Bogdiyev.

Speaking in Libreville, Guy Penne, African affairs advisor to the French president, announced that Paris planned to scale up arms and military equipment supplies to the regime of Hissene Habre in N 'djamena.

The pretext used by Paris for a fresh attempt to intervene in the affairs of Chad is combat operations that resumed in the north of that country in recent days where troops of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU) launched an offensive on the forces of the N'djamena regime. Resorting to a habitual propaganda ploy, Guy Penne and, after him, the N'djamena authorities, were quick in putting the blame for the worsening of the situation in Chad on Libya. It is common knowledge, though, that Washington and Paris resorted to such stories more than once in order to justify their intervention in what is a purely domestic crisis in that central African country.

However, there are no grounds at all for accusing Libya of involvement in that conflict. Pressmen, including French journalists who recently visited the TGNU-controlled areas admitted that they saw no Libyan troops there. The Libyan was news agency JANA categorically dismissed these accusations as groundless. Libya, JANA emphasized, will continue to honor its commitments strictly and will not [words indistinct] in the Chad conflict.

Paris, as the events demonstrate, is stubbornly trying to influence the developments in Chad so that they might suit its interests. France, as its External Affairs Minister Roland Dumas said, is closely watching the situation in Chad and is in consultation on that matter with Hissene Habre and the governments of "certain African nations." The [words indistinct] point is primarily the Central African Republic where a large contingent of French troops, permanently aimed at Chad, is stationed.

In case there is a threat to the N'djamena regime these forces are ready to come to its rescue. It is not happenenstance that [AGENCE] FRANCE PRESSE news agency recalls the notorious operation "mante", that is, the direct French intervention in Chad which began August 10, 1983. At that time Habre's forces were bolstered with more than three thousand French officers and men as well as large amounts of modern military equipment.

Guy Penne's statement confirms that France adheres to its policy of preserving control over its former colony at any cost. Chad attracts the West both with its natural resources and its strategic location. NATO's top decision-makers, including the United States, and also the French military-industrial complex insist that the policy of intervention in central Africa be continued. It is appropriate to recall that precisely one-year ago the influential "fonds de l'avenir" which expresses the interests of mentioned quarters set forth its "recipes" of French policy in Africa.

The main one of them is "not to fear to use military strength", to make military actions in Africa more "decisive, offensive and even riskly."

Heeding the views of those who would like to see France becoming "Africa's gendarme", Paris disregards the interests of the people of Chad and of independent African nations. Attempts to internationalize the conflict are at a basic variances with the 1979 Laos agreements on Chad which emphasized that the problem of that country could be resolved only on the condition of respect for independence and territorial integrity of Chad and non-intervention in its internal affairs from outside.

NICARAGUA'S RUIZ, ARISTOV DISCUSS TRADE TIES

LD112206 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1808 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb (TASS) -- The state and prospects of the development of the trade and economic ties between the Soviet Union and Nicaragua were discussed at talks that were held here today between USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov, and Henry Ruiz, minister of foreign economic cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Henry Ruiz said in a conversation with a TASS correspondent that trade between our countries is growing at a rapid pace. It is sufficient to say that in 1985 it increased by 75 percent compared with the previous year. We are convinced, declared the Nicaraguan minister, that it will be possible to maintain in the future the high rate at which our trade and economic cooperation have already developed.

During his visit to the USSR, which concludes today, Henry Ruiz also met the heads of a number of other Soviet departments.

KAZIMIROV IN COSTA RICA; COMMENTS ON NICARAGUA

PA112247 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0233 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] San Jose, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, a delegation from the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry met here Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez.

The Soviet delegation is visiting several Latin American nations, and is headed by Vladimir Kazimirov, chief of the First Latin American Countries Department, and Vadim Chekmazov, deputy chief of the Second Latin American Countries Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The delegation has the mission of explaining the proposals of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on a moratorium on nuclear tests and the total elimination of that kind of weapon within 15 years. After visiting Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, the delegation travelled to Mexico today.

Kazimirov, who was the first Soviet ambassador to Costa Rica when the two nations established diplomatic relations in 1971, said that the proposal for the elimination of nuclear tests in the year 2000 is basically directed to the United States; however, it should be of interest to all mankind. The Soviet diplomat criticized the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, known as "star wars," because he believes that it entails "serious risks for mankind."

During a press conference, he commented that if war is taken into space, any error could have very serious repercussions for mankind. He added that "mankind cannot become the hostage of computers."

Moreover, Kazimirov said that the USSR "is resolutely" in favor of a "fair" political settlement of the Central American crisis, and insisted that Nicaragua is a country under attack by the United States, which "finances, organizes, and directs the counter-revolution."

Likewise, Kazimirov defended Soviet aid to Nicaragua, and said that it will be maintained as long as Nicaragua's right to undertake "an independent path, which allows its economic and cultural recovery, and the achievement of social progress to which it is entitled," is violated.

'PRESSURE' ON NEW HONDURAN PRESIDENT CITED

PM041635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[N. Ognev report: "FaithHopes"]

[Text] Mexico, 2 Feb -- The new Honduran President, Jose Simon Ascona Oyo, who won the elections on 24 November last year, has been sworn in. He replaces a representative of the same Liberal Party, Roberto Suazo Cordova. This is the first case in the last 50 years of a transfer of power by civilian presidents in Honduras, which is distinguished by political instability.

Ascona Oyo's predecessor as head of state was called the "president with plenary powers, but without real power." He ceded the reins of government to the military, content with exclusively representative functions, disregarding national development, and consigning the people's social interests to oblivion. Approximately 40 percent of Hondurans are unemployed and 40 percent can neither read nor write. "Occupied Honduras," on whose territory several Pentagon military bases are located, where more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers are permanently quartered and up to 10,000 hirelings from the armed formations of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, has become an instrument for implementing the U.S. aggressive, interventionist course in Central America.

In the period preceding his taking office, the new Honduran president rather vaguely promised to assist the activity of the Contadora Group, spoke of the necessity to limit the U.S. presence in Honduras, and stated his intention of normalizing relations with Nicaragua and even throwing the counterrevolutionary Somoza bands out of the country.

However, as the Mexican journal PROCESO wrote, Ascona Oyo's claims to even the semblance of an independent political course for Honduras have been nipped in the bud. Under pressure from Washington, even before taking office, he was compelled to agree to forming a so-called "nationalist alliance" and to share power with the military, which cooperates with the Pentagon, and with a pro-U.S. national party.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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EDITORIAL ARTICLE CONTRASTS SOVIET, U.S. ATTITUDES

PM171635 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial article: "Action Must Be Taken!"]

[Text] Just a few days remain before the opening of the 27th CPSU Congress whose decisions will lay the foundations for a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet society and the further comprehensive activation of the USSR's peace-loving policy. By a UN decision 1986 has been declared International Peace Year and is designed to be a year of struggle for peace, a year of serious discussions on the nature of peace and measures for strengthening it. It was at the beginning of this year that, for the first time in the history of the nuclear age, the Soviet Union put forward a broad, specific program of innovatory spirit for totally liberating mankind from nuclear weapons by the start of the third millennium. The coincidence of such major events is symbolic in its way -- the struggle for the consolidation of peace and for radical headway in the laborious business of disarmament is today receiving unprecedented political impetus.

It is possible to ensure lasting peace and man's survival under present conditions only with the complete elimination of the gigantic nuclear arsenals. This idea is obvious. But something else should also become obvious to all: The elimination of nuclear weapons is inconceivable with the militarization of space. That is why, M.S. Gorbachev has said, "The prevention of the transfer of the arms race into space is regarded by the Soviet Union as a fundamental condition for preserving mankind."

It would be an oversimplification to believe that Washington is only thinking of how to press the nuclear buttons as quickly as possible. But it would be even more of an oversimplification to think that it is not preparing to do this given suitable conditions. It is preparing -- and strenuously. All they have to do is ensure their impunity, the Pentagon strategists and their high-ranking political patrons believe: to ensure it not only by lengthening the nuclear sword, but also by deploying an antimissile shield over the United States. This must be done so that everything looks decorous: The United States is allegedly shifting to a strictly defensive strategy.

The Soviet Union rejects this dangerous concept for safeguarding security. It is the concept of an arms race, which has never yet ensured lasting peace. It is the concept of not only preserving, but also further rapidly building up high mountains of nuclear weapons and therefore, of intensifying the threat of nuclear annihilation.

The Soviet Union proceeds here from the premise that in the 21st century mankind must start off not from the "star wars" platform, but from the "star peace" platform combined with the complete absence of nuclear weapons on earth. Our country also proceeds from the premise that immediate and radical measures are essential and that a coordinated, comprehensive program aimed at eliminating forever, within an historically brief period, the threat of nuclear death looming over mankind is necessary to prevent a world nuclear-space catastrophe.

The Soviet Union has put forward such a program. As early as this year it would be possible to begin its implementation in order to free the peoples from the fear of a nuclear catastrophe. If, of course, there is a desire, above all on the part of the United States, to do so; desire of a principled order -- the readiness to coexist in a nuclear-free world, under a peaceful sky and space, to cooperate for the sake of progress on our planet, and to jointly ensure a reliable system of security for all.

The question of a military space is not a technical, but above all, a political question.

Some specialists across the ocean could spend a long time arguing about what percentage of the other side's warheads would penetrate the United States through the antimissile shield. But it is clear even now that, in any event, this "percentage" will be enough to destroy U.S. civilization. Others could discuss the function of this shield, attempting to ascertain how far it can be defensive. But it is clear even now that this shield, used in conjunction with the aggressor's sword and guided by his hand under the new conditions of the scientific-technical revolution, could be a weapon of unarming [obezoruzhivaniye]. Finally, one can argue about what degree of universal and national security there will be if the shield has two sides or, conversely, only one side and how effective a countermeasure will be to neutralize the space shield or how effective a counter-countermeasure will be. But there is scarcely any need for special proof that if the United States begins wide-scale ABM cover for its territory, the Soviet Union will take appropriate countermeasures. Something else is also clear: The strategic arms race will assume an unprecedented pace and dimension. Following the buildup of shields there will be a buildup of means to overcome them in order to retain the possibility of nuclear retribution; even if the U.S. side never has any need for this retribution, because war will never emanate from the Soviet Union.

The disputes will continue even further. But you should not believe that the truth will be revealed by the scientific research work being done in the United States in the field of space ABM defense. To expect such a "truth" means coming to terms in advance with the fact that the United States will start to deploy space strike armaments. That means acknowledging that the USSR's call for new military-political thinking cannot be supported because the avalanche-like process of military rivalry is allegedly insurmountable. No, our country opposes this assessment of the situation and resolutely advocates breaking down the "logic" of the arms race.

The Soviet Union believes that it is truly criminal to waste time under conditions when the pace of the arms race is outstripping that of talks. Time is now too precious and for that reason, the most favorable atmosphere possible must be created at disarmament talks. The adoption of the nuclear disarmament program proposed by the Soviet Union with its nuclear,   and other aspects would make it possible to add to mankind's account the undoubted bonuses of the Soviet proposals: the establishment of clearly defined routes and guidelines, the fixing of concrete deadlines for reaching and implementing accords, and the attribution of direction and purposefulness to the talks. The adoption of this program would make the U.S. Administration's statements on its commitment to the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons definitely sincere, instead of merely ostentatious.

The alternative to this rational approach is extraordinarily dangerous and there must be a special realization of this now that the world is on a dangerous nuclear and space brink. If the improvement and buildup of nuclear armaments alone in the seventies began threatening particularly forcefully to destabilize the strategic situation, the combination of those actions with the additional space element in the eighties will increase the danger of destabilization many times over. With the further development of that combination -- and that would be inevitable since the arms race process would become irreversible -- mankind would lose control of the solution to the problem of "to be or not to be." The U.S. desire for military superiority, which is a constant factor, could then be implemented more quickly and limitlessly. And that threatens catastrophe. The Soviet Union urges the renunciation of thinking in terms of military strength, which leads to catastrophe. Observable restraint in the military sphere is the best proof of the USSR's readiness to work toward nullifying all armaments.

When calling for radical disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, the Soviet Union does not believe for a moment that U.S. agreement with the historic Soviet initatives would cause the differences between our countries to disappear.

No, we are realists. The rivalry will remain in different spheres because the two sides belong to opposite sociopolitical systems. But this rivalry must not be permitted to develop into military confrontation at any stage. The systems' advantages must be demonstrated in peaceful spheres and only in peaceful spheres.

By all accounts such an approach has still not prevailed in Washington. The U.S. Administration's attitude to the new Soviet proposals is still not uniformly positive. There has still been no official response to these proposals. It is hard to say how thoroughly and from what viewpoint the Soviet initiatives are being studied across the ocean, but the process of this "study" has already gone on for an unseemly length of time. The world does not need subterfuges, pretexts, or propaganda statements on questions of peace and disarmament, it needs practical deeds. To achieve that, the leadership of all countries must rise above national egotism, tactical strife, and disputes and break with traditional ideas about the unshakable priority of building up military strength. In our age these ideas are tantamount to agreeing to national suicide. Peace and international and national security can only be ensured on the basis of political measures and by consistent and large-scale disarmament. Everyone must recognize that this is the axiom of the nuclear and space age. But even that is no longer enough. It is necessary to act energetically and purposefully so that survival prevails forever over the threat of annihilation.

GRACHEV INTERVIEWED ON DISARMAMENT, AUSTRIAN ROLE

AU141146 Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German 14 Feb 86 p 3

["Exclusive Interview" given by Andrey Grachev, "department head in the CPSU Central Committee and head of a delegation of experts and military personnel that visited Austria during the past few days" to VOLKSSTIMME reporter Otto Janecek in Vienna]

[Text] Question: Do you think that the SDI program can be stopped in the United States at all? Quite a lot of business interests are involved. The military-industrial group hopes to rake in billions of dollars. There are large lobbies for SDI in the U.S. Congress.

Answer: You are right, there are many people in the United States who are interested in the SDI project. But these groups are very different. Let us take, for instance, Reagan himself. He considers himself the savior of the world or at least the savior of the United States. But I have got the impression that since the Geneva summit Reagan's conviction in this respect has been shaken a bit.

I believe the power of the arguments which were put forth by our General Secretary Gorbachev have also had an influence on Reagan. The arguments concerning armament in space, which are stated by our leadership, are very simple, but they are also very convincing. First of all, SDI will never be 100-percent impenetrable. And if only a hole of 10 percent for incoming missiles existed, this would be enough to destroy the United States. Even only 1 percent of the strategic missiles correspond to about 5,000 Hiroshima bombs. No country is able to survive anything like that, least of all the United States. Thus, this is a point of view with which one can influence the decisions in the United States -- and we are working in this direction.

Of course, the military-industrial group in the United States wants to make a profit, even at the cost of reducing their own security, because a destabilization of the strategic situation will also lead to a decrease in security for the United States. But we have already seen several times in the past that projects, even U.S. projects, have been stopped when they became obviously absurd. In this connection much depends on public opinion -- in the United States and abroad.

We also believe, that one day even the strategic thinkers in the United States will find out that they are working for a pure nonsense, for a nonsense that is contrary to their own interests and their own security. Our conclusion is: Nothing is irreversible. In order to prevent the world from sliding into an even more dangerous situation, it is, however, necessary to explain the absurdity of the SDI concept. For this purpose everything has to be used, including public opinion in the European countries.

Question: Do you think that the Challenger disaster could also influence public opinion in the United States?

Answer: Certainly. Because the Challenger disaster has made the problems in connection with SDI obvious. In a paradoxical way the Challenger disaster confirmed the argument that Gorbachev used in his discussion with Reagan in Geneva. Gorbachev said: Look, Mr President, just imagine a situation in which your SDI has already been deployed. It might happen that an asteriod crashes into one of your platforms, then the computers will react in the same way as if an attack had taken place. The computers will give the order to launch the missiles. And men would die because the computers decided in such a way.

Question: Austria is a neutral country. What can small, neutral countries contribute to the issue of disarmament?

Answer: I would say that in this time of enormous military potentials the role of the small countries and the neutral countries is paradoxically increasing. The increase of military potentials in fact reduces the security of the large countries. They are not faced with the problem of using their weapons, but with the problem of not having to use them. That means that more and more political power is transferred to the place where political initiatives are introduced, where there are political proposals, where a voice is raised. And I think that the political attitude of such countries as Austria is an important part of public opinion -- all over the world.

You get a confirmation of this in the attitude of the small countries at the various international conferences, such as in Vienna or Stockholm or Geneva. Every time it is necessary to find a compromise between the opposing positions of East and West, the most important role is played by the small, neutral countries. And Austria, too, belongs to these countries.

I would put it this way: Although such counties as Austria are not nuclear powers themselves, they have another potential, a political one. They have many ways of influencing the situation in Europe and in the world. And they should use this potential to the utmost.

SOVIET 'EX½ERTS' HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE IN VIENNA

LD171850 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Vienna, February 17 TASS -- Taking into account the keen interest shown all over the world in the statement on disarmament issued by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and numerous requests by members of the press for explanations and comments on its individual provisions, a group of Soviet foreign-policy experts have arrived in Vienna under arrangements with the Soviet Embassy in Austria.

They held a news conference in the press club of the Austrian capital, which dealt with the latest Soviet disarmanent initiatives and was attended by numerous journalists representing the Austrian and foreign press, including leading Vienna papers, and the news agencies of a number of countries.

It was pointed out at the news conference that Mikhail Gorbachev's statement sets forth a concrete and detailed plan for action to remove the most formidable threat facing mankind today, that of a nuclear war.

The Soviet experts also called attention to the extension by the USSR, as a gesture of good will, of its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions till March 31 and to its repeated call on the United States to join the constructive step.

The Soviet experts also answered questions from attending newsmen.

PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

LD171222 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1203 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Stockholm 17 Feb (TASS) -- A press conference took place at the Soviet Embassy here attended by representatives of the Swedish mass information media, political parties, trade unions, scientific circles, and peace movements supporters.

The Soviet representatives answered many questions on the main parts of the 15 January statement by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev. Particular attention was devoted to the European aspect of the Soviet disarmament program, as well as to questions on ending all nuclear tests and the role of Sweden in the work of the Delhi "Six".

Taking part in the press conference was a group of Soviet experts and the Soviet Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin.

U.S. OFFICIALS 'CAMOUFLAGE' 'OBSTRUCTIONIST STAND'

LD151816 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 15 TASS -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS military news analyst, writes:

In their public statements, high-ranking representatives of the U.S. Administration "welcome" the new proposals on nuclear disarmament put forward by the Soviet Union, including also on medium-range missiles. Even American general Bernard Rogers, the NATO allied commander in Europe, described them as a "positive fact" in his interview with the newspaper NEUE OSNABRUECKER ZEITUNG. As the Belgian news agency said, Paul Nitze, U.S. presidential consultant, stressed during his meetings in Brussels, that there now exists a possibility to reach a Soviet-American agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe.

As is known, the Soviet Union proposed as the first step on the way of ridding the European Continent of nuclear weapons that Soviet and American medium-range missiles in the European zone be completely eliminated. In so doing the USA should commit itself not to supply its strategic and medium-range missiles to other countries, while Britain and France -- should not build up their respective weapons.

The newspaper WASHINGTON POST said that at a meeting at the U.S. State Department, presidential advisors proposed that instead of complete elimination of Soviet and American medium-range missiles in the European zone, as is proposed by the Soviet Union, a part of such missiles be preserved in Europe, while unilateral reductions of Soviet SS-20 be carried out in Asia. They claim that Washington will not accept the Soviet terms for a freeze on the British and French nuclear forces and will insist on the right of the USA to turn over American sea-based Trident-2 missiles to London.

One cannot help asking the question what the presidential advisors propose to leave of the Soviet proposal on the medium-range missiles in the European zone, which they "welcome" by word of mouth? Practically nothing.

There is an impression, that some U.S. Administration officials, who do not dare to reject openly the Soviet initiatives, which have ardent support of the world public, are forced to maneuver, to camouflage their obstructionist stand on the disarmament problems. "Disarmament proposals have been recently coming from Moscow, which cause fear even in U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger," says the West German newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU. It looks like they arouse fear not only in Weinberger.

In order to reject in a highly diplomatic manner a positive proposal of the other side, it is necessary to agree with it in principle, but reject in essence, the architects of the English school of diplomacy of the 19th century lectured. Some Washington officials have, apparently, decided to follow this obsolete rule.

The European aspect of the nuclear problem has been a subject of discussion for many years now, while the security conditions in Europe continue deteriorating. The Soviet Union proposes to put an end to such developments, to cut this Gordian knot and rid Europe both of the medium-range nuclear weapons and tactical ones. It is absolutely obvious that the implementation of the Soviet initiatives cannot be detrimental to any country either in Europe, or, the more so, in America.

The world public has the right to expect that common sense will prevail in Washington, that the U.S. reply to the Soviet initiatives, including on medium-range missiles, will be based on the true interests of strengthening security in all countries without exception.

BOGACHEV TERMS U.S. POSITION 'IRRESPONSIBLE'

LD141546 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev.

Experts are unanimous that, within the broad range of possible practical actions on curbing the arms race, ending nuclear explosions would be the simplest and at the same time exclusively effective measure that would put an end to the process of developing new and perfecting the existing types of nuclear weapons.

To end the tests, it is necessary that each nuclear state issue as a first step a corresponding order to its military and scientific communities. Simultaneously, it will be possible to agree on concrete measures for checking compliance with the moratorium. Both the USSR and the United States possess technical means that make it possible to accurately determine the location and yield of any nuclear blasts, and to clearly distinguish them from earthquakes. In addition to the existing national means of verification, the Soviet Union offers the use of other, fundamentally new means. The USSR backed the proposal by several states to set up on their territories special stations to monitor compliance with the agreement banning the tests.

The Soviet side expressed its readiness to agree with the United States, after imposing a reciprocal moratorium on nuclear blasts, on some measures of on-site verification to lift doubts as to observance of the moratorium. The verification problem would thus be practically resolved. Using the strictest criteria, it can no longer be regarded as an obstacle in the way of an agreement on terminating nuclear explosions. The road would be ultimately paved for reaching an accord on a total prohibition of nuclear testing between the USSR, the United States and Britain to which other countries could join.

It is important to stress that, simple and reliable as the measures to end nuclear testing are, they can only be implemented given the readiness of at least two great powers -- the USSR and the United States -- to put roadblocks in the way of the nuclear arms race. The Soviet Union has already made the first step towards banning nuclear explosions. In a bid to set into motion the solution of the problem, the USSR unilaterally suspended all nuclear explosions from August 6 last year, and urged the United States to follow the good example. In January 1986, the Soviet Union extended the moratorium till March 31, and stated that it would remain in effect beyond that should the United States halt its own nuclear test programme.

Defying public protests, the United States responded to the Soviet Union's major goodwill gesture with nuclear explosions at the Nevada test site. Washington's actions show that the United States remains committed to the illusory and peace-endangering goal of achieving military superiority.

The Soviet Union welcomes any practical steps that help reduce the level of military confrontation. In face of intensive military preparations of the United States, however, the USSR cannot display indefinitely its unilateral restraint, including in the sphere of nuclear testing.

The U.S. Administration, which constantly expresses its readiness "to go its mile towards disarmament", ought to corroborate its verbal declarations by practical deeds. Joining the Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts could become the first positive step by the United States over the past five years in that direction.

The stakes are too high. The real chances of improving the overall climate of the international situation cannot be missed due to the shortsighted and irresponsible position of the United States towards a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing.

U.S. RESPONSE WILL SHOW 'TRUE FACE' TO WORLD

LD171835 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The package of far-reaching Soviet peace initiatives set forth in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has been summed up in the world as "a comprehensive blueprint for peace," "a prescription for survival" and "the sole cure for the nuclear disease." It offers a realistic prospect for delivering the planet from nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

The complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone can mark a first step on this noble path, a first "course of treatment for the nuclear disease."

The Soviet leadership has explained that its proposal on this issue is not accompanied by any conditions, except a renunciation by Britain and France of their buildup of corresponding nuclear weapons and a commitment by the United States not to transfer its missiles, either strategic or medium-range, to other countries.

Everything seems to be clear and definite in this proposal. It takes into account the interests of all those who are interested in fact rather than in words in real progress towards ridding the European continent of nuclear arms.

Such proposals, U.S. Congressman Gerry Studds remarked bluntly, could not be easily turned down by the United States. This is because of the fact that if Washington keeps rejecting all Soviet attempts to bring about detente, this will give the rest of the world every reason to believe that the nuclear buildup is the only language understood by the United States. The fact apparently has been realized in Washington, which perhaps explains why U.S. Administration officials have of late been saying again and again that Washington is drafting a "response" to the Soviet proposal on medium-range missiles.

But the substance of the response, judging by American press reports, clearly fails to show a desire really to advance along the road of eradicating the "nuclear disease".

The West German newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE described the draft American response as a "revival " of the old "zero option". It said it will hardly suit the Soviet Union since the U.S. Administration will refuse to undertake not to hand over its missiles to other countries (and so will retain the possibility to supply Trident-2 missiles to Britain). The impression also is that Washington has already "persistently advised" Britain and France not to take any part even in the very first course of treatment for the "nuclear disease", that is not to agree to renounce the buildup of their respective nuclear weapons.

Moreover, according to THE BOSTON GLOBE, the U.S. Administration's aim is to demand still greater cuts in Soviet medium-range missiles, while offering nothing in return. Specifically, Washington intends to demand an additional reduction of 50 percent of the Soviet SS-20 missiles in Asia without any accompanying cuts in the American nuclear weapons in the region. The attempt to revive the "zero option", and a "zero option" at that with changes for the worse, dooms the resolution of the medium-range missile issue to failure in advance.

Some of the U.S. spokesmen are openly declaring unwillingness to reduce the American medium-range missiles in the European zone in any case. U.S. General Bernard Rogers, supreme allied commander in Europe, for one, openly voiced the apprehensions of the "hawks" when he contended that destroying medium-range weapons would mean that the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, that is the weapons which, he said, were the binding link between European and American security, would disappear from Europe.

His claim made it appear as if there were no "linkage" between European and American security before the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe and the "linkage" will be no longer be there with the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. But in fact the general and other "hawks" are concerned about something else. U.S. medium-range missiles are first-strike weapons and are among the basic elements of the U.S.-propelled arms race, a "binding link" of this race. This is why some people in Washington are reluctant to see this link disappear because then the entire chain can come apart. But they forget in the process that their response to the Soviet proposals will show the entire world the true face, the true intentions of Washington.

U.S. ALLIES TAKE 'COVER BEHIND WALL OF SILENCE'

LD171853 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1548 GMT 17 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] The United States and the North Atlantic bloc, after high-level consultations on the latest Soviet proposals, have taken cover behind a wall of silence.

This is a quotation from the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN. I have not selected it accidentally; in my view the paper's Brussels correspondent has found a very accurate definition of the West's position -- a wall of silence. Indeed, 15 February was exactly 1 month since the publication of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement.

The days go by, but there is no response from across the ocean, although headlines of the type "The United States Plans a Positive Response to the Soviet Proposals" are not fading from U.S. newspapers. As yet, they are only planning. Of course, the package of major initiatives from the Soviet Union require serious and deep analysis and study. In addition, Washington needed to consult with Bonn and Paris, London and Brussels, Tokyo and Beijing. All of this is understandable, but the days inexorably go by.

At the end of January, THE WASHINGTON POST wrote that the Soviet arms control proposal, which was both thorough and sharp, forced the White House to move onto the defensive. The (?reactionaries') camp has also gone to ground for a bit: The Soviet Union's proposal to enter the 21st century without nuclear and chemical weapons has had too impressive an effect on millions of people. But while Washington delays its response, the right-wing politicians and the press are continually moving to the attack. Fantasies have again come into circulation. Pentagon chief Weinberger said: The Soviet proposal is basically a propagandistic gesture and there is no need to change anything in U.S. policy. They try to hush up, or at times distort, the essence of certain important clauses in the statement. They even go as far as forgery and deception: Supposedly, the Soviet Union is prepred to sign a perfectly insignificant agreement, while President Reagan does not have to renounce his Strategic Defense Initiative.

We knew in advance that our proposals would not be to the liking of some in the West. Detente still has many enemies. However, they are increasingly in the minority. A recent U.S. public opinion poll demonstrated that 74 percent of Americans support the USSR's proposal for the liquidation of nuclear weapons by 2000. Indeed, the West has to give a response before its own peoples. I would like to be an optimist and believe that the U.S. side will yet give a positive response. Herbert Wells wisely noted: If we do not put an end to war, war will put an end to us.

ARMS VERIFICATION SEEN AS 'NO PROBLEM' FOR ACCORD

LD171631 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The British newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES writes today that with modern technical means, arms control agreements can be verified with a high degree of confidence. The paper denounces those "hawks" in the Reagan administration that seek to make "effective verification" the keystone of their negative position towards the Soviet disarmament programme. "The real problem with verification, however, is not so much technical as political", the FINANCIAL TIMES underlines.

One cannot fail to agree with this view. And indeed, the question of verification lies in the political and good will which Washington should display. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned verification is no problem. The Soviet stand with regard to armaments under destruction and limitation, which was formulated in the January 15 statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, is crystal clear and rules out any false speculation. The Soviet Union is prepared to effect in practice any measures of the most rigid control whether it is related to refusal to conduct any nuclear explosions, a ban on the development of space strike arms (to the point of inspection of relevant laboratories), the elimination of chemical weapons or reduction in conventional arms, etc.

No one can object to the fact that the issue of effective verification is highly important in the cause of nuclear disarmament. Opponents of disarmament have been clinging to this problem to this day in a bid to prevent progress in accomplishing this task of vital importance in our day and age. The Soviet Union has a no less stake in verification than any other side. It fosters this strong interest of itself with drafting large-scale measures to verify limitation, reduction, and liquidation of armaments. The U.S.S.R. holds that concrete agreements on disarmament should be verified both by national technical means and on-site inspection through international procedures. The U.S.S.R. suggested the United States coming to terms on this.

But the Soviet Union underscores that the point at issue should be control over disarmament and not armament, for which "hawks" in the United States and NATO are actually after.

The appeal by the Soviet Union, addressed to the entire mankind, to enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons, to harness the energy of the atom to the service of peace, meets the aspirations of all peoples. This appeal is ardently supported by hundreds of millions of people on all continents, who expect from Washington a constructive and businesslike approach to it.

EAST, WEST GERMAN PARTIES HOLD NUCLEAR-FREE TALKS

LD142022 Moscow TASS in English 1941 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- TASS commentator Lev Aksenov writes:

The delegations of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] had a meeting in Bonn today to discuss formation of a nuclear-free zone in central Europe. The significance of the meeting exceeds by far the limits of inter-party relations between the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Considering the topicality of the problem, the solution of which is, in the final account, crucial to preservation of peace globally.

Socialist states, other countries put forward a number of proposals to deliver various regions from the most terrible weapons of mass destruction, created by man. Mention should be made here of the proposal of the GDR and Czechoslovakia to the FRG Government that a zone free from chemical weapons be formed in central Europe, the initiatives to make the Balkan peninsula and the north of Europe nuclear-free zones.

All these peace proposals go along with the comprehensive program of delivering the world from weapons of mass destruction, which was formulated in the January 15 statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. The measures being discussed now on the banks of the Rhine River by representatives of political parties of both German states, will help mankind approach the third millennium in conditions of peace, security and confidence. The business-like discussion of one of the most important problems of European security, but not heightening of tension in one of the most "sensitive" parts of the planet -- this is the cardinal way to a world without weapons, a world without wars.

Commentary on Talks

LD152003 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Excerpts] In Bonn talks have taken place between delegates of the SPD and the SED on the question of creating a nuclear-free zone in central Europe. A commentary on the latest news; at the microphone is our political observer, Aleksandr Zholkver:

The meeting in Bonn in my opinion is noteworthy in many respects. First of all, it bears witness to the popularity of the idea of zones free from nuclear weapons. But you see, this idea is repeatedly anathematized by the NATO leadership which is certainly busy not limiting nuclear arms, but accumulating them. And now, despite the concentrated Atlantic propaganda about the blessing of U.S. nuclear missles which are being sited in West Germany itself, one of the leading political parties of the country, the SPD, is unambiguously speaking out against the transatlantic nuclear gifts and in favor of declaring the FRG a nuclear-free zone. As far as the SED is concerned, it is, as is known, the ruling party in the GDR and has repeatedly supported at governmental level the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons in central Europe.

I point out in this connection that the idea of nuclear-free zones is spreading more and more not only in central Europe. I remind you that our country actively supports the idea of the creation of non-nuclear zones as one of the measures to limit nuclear arms and avert their gradual spread over the planet. The Soviet Union is ready to give effective guarantees to any country that refuses to site nuclear weapons on its territory.

Quite another stance is taken by the United States. Suffice it to remember how Washington was up in arms against New Zealand when its government refused to allow U.S. ships carrying nuclear arms into its ports. Nonetheless, the present discussions by the SPD and SED delegations on the question of creating nuclear-free zones clearly confirms that public opinion supports this idea as a considerable contribution to the strengthening of the cause for peace.

WEINBERGER REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR SDI PROGRAM

LD141734 Moscow TASS in English 1639 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 14 TASS -- The loss of the space shuttle Challenger will not block U.S. pursuit of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) programme, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger stressed Thursday in an interview with ASSOCIATED PRESS editors. He made it clear that if flights under the space shuttle programme are not resumed within the next six months, the Pentagon might have to turn to alternatives for launching military objects and spy satellites. Acknowledging that the disaster could have an impact on several SDI projects, he stressed that the work on devising a partically space-based anti-missile defence has not been suspended, but is following the early schedule.

The defence secretary's obsession with the idea of space militarization, despite human casualties, have caused bewilderment among the journalists. They made an attempt to find out whether the United States could accept an intricate space defence system like "star wars" in view of the accident that destroyed the shuttle. To this, Weinberger cynically replied, "I certainly don't think we should stop working on it because we had a terrible tragedy on the shuttle."

SDI SAID DANGEROUS TO WORLD'S INTERESTS

LD30012 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1822 GMT 12 Feb 86

["The Question of the Militarization of Space; The 'Starry' Road to Strategic Chaos" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Feb (TASS) -- Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS military observer writes:

The U.S. creators of "star wars" are trying to present the SDI program as almost being a means of "reinforcing" strategic stability and as an opportunity to move, with the help of an extensive antimissile defense system involving space-based elements, "from a strategy founded on the threat of offensive power to a strategy that threatens no one." There is nothing further from the truth than assertions of this kind.

In actual fact, the militarization of space will inevitably lead to the disappearance of the very concept of strategic stability and will turn the present strategic balance into strategic chaos. Distrust among countries will rise, while the security of all countries will be significantly lowered. This is the way that the Soviet Union assesses the dangers that "star wars" constitute for mankind. And this opinion, this assessment is shared throughout the world, including the United States, by prominent politicians, military experts, and scientists, SDI, they declare, is an intrusion of fantasy into politics, a mixture of unrealizable dream and confused strategy. Implementation of the "star wars"program will dangerously destabilize the situation, will make it even more explosive, and, one fine day, will strike back like a boomerang at the United States itself.

What, then, is the point? What are the circumstances producing this "starry" road to strategic chaos? First, there is a close interconnection between strategic offensive and defensive weapons; effective measures to limit antimissile defensive systems constitute a substantial factor in restraining the arms race in strategic offensive weapons. But the disturbing or ignoring this interconnection inevitably leads to an increase in their numbers. The higher the piles of weapons, the less stable is the situation. The interdependence of offensive and defensive weapons is nontransitory and universal in nature: It is not "eroded" and does not vanish with the appearance of the possibility of creating technically more sophisticated and effective antimissile defense systems.

Official Washington consciously "overlooks" the fact that strike weapons as well as defensive weapons have, over the last 10-15 years, undergone considerable technical development, the initiator of which has been the United States in every specific case. What is more, nothing is being said there either about the important point that, with the "brilliant promise" of the development of technology suitable for SDI, offensive weapons can, undoubtedly, within the same time frame, also make significant strides in their development. So that if one compares the development of technology suitable for "defensive" missions and the development of technology that may considerably boost the possibilities of offensive potential, the advantages of the "defensive" systems proclaimed by "star wars" supporters do not look at all convincing.

Second, the introduction into the strategic equation of a qualitatively new component, which is what the ABM systems with space-based elements would be, creates an additional element of uncertainty in the strategic balance, which is a natural consequence of the differences in the systems that the two sides will have, even if these differences are inconsiderable. As has already occurred with strategic offensive weapons, the development in the new sphere would proceed along different paths for the two leading nuclear powers. Such a circumstance would increase the concern of each of them about the possibility of asymmetry arising in strategic potentials.

Third, the development [razrabotka] and deployment of an antimissile defense will lead to an accelerated creation [sozdaniye] and improvement of means of counteracting this defense, means of penetrating it with strategic offensive weapons, that is, adding yet another fundamentally new element to the strategic equation and consequently, even greater uncertainty. In response to the development of means of countering the ABM system and penetrating it, the sides would acquire weapons to oppose them -- counter-response weapons, counter-counter measures -- which would serve to further increase uncertainty in the strategic balance.

Competition between offence and defense will become a sort of "racing round in circles;" weapons, counter-weapons, counter-counter weapons, and so on ad infinitum.

This "racing round in circles," this endless stepping up of ever more and more turns of the arms race spiral will be accompanied by a sharp worsening of strategic stability and a movement towards general uncertainty and fear linked with this whole increase in the risk of catastrophe. SDI will not create any sort of "perfect world of defense," but will destroy the idea of mutual deterrence.

The U.S. concept is aimed at achieving absolute security for itself and at placing everyone else in a position of "absolute danger." This is a concept which is vicious and dangerous for the world. That is why the USSR is consistently and stubbornly opposed to the "star wars" program and is struggling for the introduction into life of the concept of equal security, the strengthening of which could be implemented by way of reducing armaments and by disarming, going as far as the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

SDI, DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL AIMS CONTRASTED

PM141624 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Colonel A. Timofeyev article: "Ruinous Venture; the United States Continues a Policy Aimed at the Militarization of Space"]

[Excerpt] Defenders of SDI frequently claim, demagogically, that peace and stability would be strengthened if the Soviet Union and the United States were simultaneously to deploy large-scale ABM systems. But this is an unsound argument. In order to be convinced of this, you have only to take a sober look, for example, at individual aspects of such a hypothetical situation. Since it is impossible in practice to properly evaluate and compare the effectiveness of such systems with the inevitable differences between them, it is natural that, afraid of ending up worse off, each side would seek to strengthen its own strategic potential in the spheres of both defensive and offensive means. That is, the stockpiling of weapons would continue and stability would be undermined.

Another fact is no less obvious. Given parallel possession of large-scale ABM systems, a "first strike" strategy would prove preferable, since such a strike inflicted simultaneously -- both at the enemy's ABM system (particularly its most vulnerable space element) and at his territory -- would clearly benefit the attacking side. The aggressor would deprive the enemy of a proper opportunity to withstand the attack and, at the same time, would retain the ability to parry a counterstrike. As a result, the development of events in the world would be totally unpredictable.

However, talk of parallel possession belongs to the realm of theoretical argument. As the facts attest, the U.S. architects of "star wars" do not, in fact, conceive of any such thing. On the contrary, by means of a breakthrough in the technological sphere they hope to achieve a military advantage in space and, at the same time, supremacy on earth. Everything attests to the fact that Washington has again decided to outwit reality. And the reality is that each new U.S. threat to the Soviet Union has invariably entailed a corresponding decrease in the latter's own security. "...If we speak of this so-called technological superiority, which it is proposed to realize within SDI and thereby, place the Soviet Union in a difficult position," M.S. Gorbachev pointed out, "then...this is another delusion. An answer will be found."

The Soviet Union cannot allow the United States to upset the military equilibrium in its favor. The disruption of military-strategic parity is particularly dangerous now that the arsenals are overfull of nuclear weapons.

In the past the Soviet Union has repeatedly caught up with the United States in whatever types of strategic arms it has forged ahead with and, if SDI is not given the red light, the Soviet Union will take the necessary measures this time also. However, the piling up of new pyramids of weapons is not our choice.

The path which the Soviet Union urges people to follow is the path toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world. A specific program for the elimination of nuclear weapons, calculated for a precisely defined period of time, is set forth in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. At the very first stage of its implementation it is planned that over the course of 5-8 years the Soviet Union and the United States will halve the nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territory.

It goes without saying that such a reduction is possible only if the Soviet Union and the United States mutually renounce the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms. Space must be kept peaceful and such arms must not be deployed there. They must not even be created [sozdavat]. Fixing a padlock to the resolution of this problem means not wanting to end the arms race on earth.

Unfortunately, the United States is continuing to step up its efforts to realize the misanthropic "star wars" plans. Washington politicians, who now talk so much about clear skies for mankind, are in reality working to literally cram the sky above our earth with strike weapons of unprecedented power. All this leads to an increased threat of war and, at a certain stage, could make it probable.

Although it is planned to finish implementing the whole "star wars" venture only after decades have elapsed, it will bring very serious consequences in the very near future. For, by implementing the "star wars" program, Washington is, in point of fact, deliberately working to wreck the present talks and to nullify all existing arms limitation agreements. In that case the whole world would find itself in a situation of an uncontrolled arms race, strategic chaos, most dangerous undermining of stability, universal uncertainty and fear, and an increased risk of nuclear catastrophe associated with all this.

The authors of the U.S. "star wars" program assign the 15 years remaining until the end of the 20th century to "deliverance from nuclear arms" with the help of the creation [sozdaniye] and deployment of the notorious space "shield." The Soviet Union proposes totally curing the earth of its nuclear ailment. Of course, the implementation of the Soviet program for ensuring equal security for all on the path of arms reduction and disarmament, right down to the total elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction, demands tremendous effort, labor, persistent struggle, and the breaking of thousand-year-old traditions. But, as M.S. Gorbachev pointed out in his replies to L'HUMANITE's questions, "The world simply cannot continue to live and act in the old way when there is a real threat of nuclear war."

POSSIBILITY FOR AGGREEMENT EXISTS WITH EFFORT

PM111555 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Feb 86 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh "Observer's Opinion": "The Challenge of the Era"]

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev's answers to questions from L'HUMANITE constitute another in the whole series of documents of great political importance put forward by the Soviet leadership in this particular period in the life of mankind.

The answers touch on a wide range of problems in both our domestic life and in international life. Profound and, at the same time, sharp and extremely frank judgments were given on each of them. Everyone of the problems thus illuminated merits close attention and detailed discussion. We are taking just one of them as the subject of this column.

In his answers to L'HUMANITE's questions M.S. Gorbachev dwelt on the challenge thrown down by the age and the need to answer it in a worthy fashion. That challenge, as the CPSU Central Committee general secretary observed, is a dual one. On the one hand, it is linked to the fact that Soviet society has entered a new stage in its history. On the other, if flows from the unfortunate fact that human civilization has created extremely efficient means of self-destruction. "For the worst to happen does not even require unprecedented stupidity of criminality," M.S. Gorbachev stressed. "It is enough to act as people have acted for millennia -- to rely on weapons and military force and on occasion, use it in resolving international affairs. It is these millennial traditions that we must now ruthlessly break and renounce for good."

What has been said may look to some people (bourgeois propaganda most often presents things this way) like utopia, like a romantic dream. In reality, it is the only possible formula for mankind's survival in our age. The impossibility [nevozmozhnost] of nuclear war is, in fact, even recognized (in words, alas, not backed by actions) by the U.S. Administration. Does this mean that the problem is no longer so acute and that we will soon be embarking on something that has never been done before -- the destruction of nuclear weapons together with the sharp reduction of all other types of weapons and the shutdown of laboratories and enterprises working on the militarization of space? No, it doesn't. One day it will come -- it cannot fail to come, otherwise all of us people without exception will disappear -- but we are going to have to fight for it desperately.

Yes, we are optimists and we believe in good sense -- in particular, we believe that the proposals set out in M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January statement will be assessed correctly by the U.S. side and we will eventually receive an appropriate answer to them. But we are not lulling ourselves or painting rosy pictures. The age dictates, it is true, but that does not mean we are suddenly going to start reaching agreement with the Washington leaders about everything right away.

Let us ask two interconnected questions. What is the United States? And what does it mean to reach agreement with it? As to the United States: According to official statistics, this year the number of U.S. millionaires will reach 1 million. A million millionaires! A rich country? Yes, very. And a very poor country at the same time because, in addition to that marvelous million, there are 40 million people (U.S. trade union figures) living in the same country who vegetate in permanent poverty. The country's politics and its public opinion are naturally determined by that million who have plenty and who hold the power.

Can we reach agreement with that million on matters which concern good and evil, justice and honor? We have too different a way of looking at many important and serious things.

By way of a most recent example, I might cite the events occurring in Haiti, which are almost like a movie or a play in terms of drama and explosive expressiveness. Even before reading Graham Green's "The Comedians" we were aware of the baseness and the bloody bacchanalia being perpetrated on that island. We were also aware that the tyrant Duvalier clan with its Tonton Macoutes was able to torment the Haitians only because it enjoyed the protection of Washington. It used to be the same in Nicaragua, except that there the U.S. pocket puppet-bandits bore the Somoza family name.

Now Haiti's time has come, I can clearly see the books, films, and plays of the future describing in every detail how Duvalier was flown out by U.S. military transport to a refuge somewhere in France. Let us see what official Washington will now do in Haiti and how soon it will recover from the shock and horror and start to blame Marxists -- Soviet, Cuban, and yet others -- for everything that has happened.

Here is a vivid example of how we look at life in different ways. In our country, when they learned about what was happening in Haiti, people boiled over and burned with hatred. In the United States not only those with power, but those who just had plenty looked on the unhappy island with complete equanimity.

So, is there no hope of reaching an understanding? It depends. M.S. Gorbachev talked about it very simply, without unnecessary metaphors or uncritical [dezhurnyy] optimism, in his answers to L'HUMANITE. The possibility of reaching agreement exists. On the main, fundamental problem which has already been mentioned and on which we are still divided by a gulf. Without building any illusions, however, it is possible to imagine how both sides can strive -- not immediately, obviously, but by insisting and bargaining -- to overcome the gulf and fill it with a mutual understanding. The nuclear danger threatens both the 40 million U.S. paupers and the 1 million millionaires equally.

These are harsh words, but realistic and I hope they will be taken as such Because it must be understood that M.S. Gorbachev's answers to the questions from L'HUMANITE continue in the most practical way to blaze the trail toward the kind of understanding outlined in the 15 January statement.

U.S. NUCLEAR TESTS SEEN AS 'STUMBLING BLOCK'

LD1423120 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Commentary by APN press agency's Spartak Beglov]

[Excerpts] The general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev, has again said it's impermissible to delay a ban on all nuclear explosions. He said as much in messages to the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to a group of Swedish antiwar organizations. Our commentary has been prepared by Spartak Beglov of the APN press Agency:

Let's scrutinize the existing situation once again. For 7 years the world has been literally one step distant from the simplest and at the same time, highly important move to curb the arms race; namely, a ban on all nuclear explosions, including underground explosions. In all these 17 years it has been impossible to do this through the fault of one side. A draft treaty was virtually finished at the end of 1979, but in 1980 the United States demanded suspending the talks, referring to political circumstances as an excuse. In 1982 it walked out altogether. Now, the United States carried out in Nevada half as many underground nuclear explosions in the first half of 1982 as in the whole of the previous year. This alone made it clear that the United States had walked out not on political grounds, but exclusively for military purposes. Since then the American position has remained unchanged. Washington has been unwilling to stop underground explosions and it does not want to join the unilateral moratorium that the Soviet Union set on these explosions on 6 August last year.

So, there's just one stumbling block in the way of stopping nuclear blasts. The United States keeps improving nuclear weapons. Over the months since the Soviet Union announced its unilateral moratorium the United States has carried out seven nuclear explosions underground, for instance to develop laser weapons for the "star wars" projects. This is why Washington does not want to stop underground nuclear explosions.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD162017 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 16 Feb 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, political observer; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, All-Union Radio commentator]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrade listeners! Exactly 1 month ago, on 16 January, the newspapers of the whole world -- and that is no exaggeration -- published a statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Radio and television broadcast the statement 1 day earlier, on the 15th, which was when it appeared. Now that a certain period of time has elapsed, it would be very worthwhile for us to take a look at the reaction throughout the world to the ideas contained in Comrade Gorbachev's statement. First of all, however, I would like to remind you of what the Soviet proposals were essentially about. Briefly speaking, our country suggested that we reach the 21st century without nuclear and chemical weapons. Here I would also like to recall that the Soviet Union, as an example, a vivid example, of its political will, decided to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions until March 31 in the hope that the United States would join in with us. Those proposals, as you all know, are being widely discussed throughout the world at various government levels.

[Shishlin] The idea of saving mankind from nuclear weapons and preventing the arms race from being extended into space is such a substantial one that it somehow overshadows other very important aspects of the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. These include the elimination of barbarous chemical weapons and, of course, the Soviet Union's readiness to substantially lower the level of so-called conventional weapons which, due to progress in military technology, are beginning to acquire the characteristics of mass destruction weapons. Here I am talking about conventional weapons in the very broadest sense of the word. But what you were saying about the questions being raised in the West regarding the statement by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary is quite right, and they are questions of a twofold nature. On the one hand are the questions prompted by the desire to understand, to comprehend the Soviet position and define what it is; and on the other hand there are the questions that are put simply to complicate things unnecessarily; questions which, more than anything else, reflect the absence of any constructive ideas on the part of those who raise them. Take, for instance, the question of ending nuclear tests. When the Soviet Union stopped all its nuclear explosions and announced a unilateral moratorium, what the United States said was that the Soviet Union had already carried out its nuclear tests, and that the United States had a program which they had not yet completed.

[Levin] Nikolay Vladimirovich, I would like to back up what you have been saying with the following example: Recently at the disarmament conference in Geneva, a speech was delivered by the Swedish representative, Ambassador Britt Theorin. Referring to information produced by the Swedish center for defense research, she said the center had calculated that from 1945 through 1985 more than 1,500 nuclear weapons tests had been carried out in the world. The precise figure was 1,567. The dismal leader in this competition, she said, was the United States, which carried out 801 explosions. According to the calculations by the Swedish center, the Soviet Union carried out 563 nuclear explosions; France, 135; Great Britain, 38; and China 29. I would like you to focus your attention, comrade listeners, on the figures for the United States and the Soviet Union: 801 and 563, respectively. This makes any talks about the United States somehow lagging behind completely groundless, and I would say that this is known by sober-minded people in the United States.

As an example, I would refer to an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES which says frankly that we have no excuse today for rejecting the new moratorium. The advantage of such a ban is evident: It would be the first concrete step in the process of arms control which could result in other moratoriums, and then a firm accord providing for inspections and other precautionary measures. It has to be said that the administration, however, has no desire to make any concessions at all in this matter· at least to date we have seen nothing positive from the United States in response to the Soviet initiative in putting a moratorium on nuclear explosions.

[Shishlin] It would appear that the United States should be saying now: Well, yes, we have been carrying out tests, but the Soviet Union is not carrying out tests. So, it is time to come to an agreement. But no, a different argument is used: What about the question of monitoring· how do you verify? The Soviet Union says that it is essentially ready for all-embracing surveillance measures over the end of nuclear weapons tests, including on-site surveillance. The Soviet Union furthermore states its positive attitude toward the nonaligned countries' idea of extending the well-known 1963 treaty banning nuclear tests in the three media to include underground nuclear tests. But, on this, the United States maintains a stony silence. The United States says that what is needed are corresponding talks and corresponding accords.

The Soviet Union, in its statement back in January, says that it is ready to sit down immediately at the negotiating table together with the United States and Great Britain, but we are now in the middle of February and there still has been no reply from the United States and Great Britain to the proposal to embark on those talks. But the problem of nuclear tests itself, of course, has become a test of the West's political good will, because it is the kind of problem whose solution would immediately have an effect both on the political climate and the atmosphere at the talks on various levels and on various disarmemnet problems that are being held between us and the United States, and between the socialist and the Western countries.

[Bovin] The whole world is saying enough is enough. It is time something was done. Look how many proposals the Soviet Union has made. No, say the Americans, we are going to carry on. We need to test our nuclear weapons. They have already abandoned all their little demagogic statement about verification and are coming straight out with -- and these are no longer the generals, but the politicians -- straight out with the honest truth and saying: We need to test our new nuclear weapons. That is all there is to it, and we will carry out nulcear tests.

[Levin] Yet we have heard numerous calls from the West for us -- because we speak about our peaceloving intentions -- to back them up with concrete action and make some sort of gesture. Many people in West, and I would call them deluded in good faith, used to say that if one of the great powers were to embark on unilateral disarmament, it would induce the other power to embark on the same path without fail. But, we assumed a very concrete pledge to end nuclear explosions, and we in actuality gave the Americans time not only for thought, but also to complete their series of tests. And what was the result?

[Shishlin] I think Aleksandr Yevgenyevich once said that to test the United States, the sort of step one could take could be to agree to some U.S. ideas, or to part of those ideas, and propose them to the United States, whereupon the United States immediately turns its back on them.

[Bovin] Let us take Europe, and specifically medium-range missiles. Judging by what the U.S. press says, quoting the British and French press -- a rather complicated maneuver -- the Americans are saying this: We in fact would welcome your proposal to completely do away with the missiles with open arms, but it is our allies, you know, who do not want to.

Britain and France, as you know, comrades, are an indispensable element of our proposal. The second thing is that we are ready to remove all our SS-20 missiles from Europe in exchange for the Americans removing theirs, but on the condition that the Americans do not sell their allies new, modernized missile weaponry. What this means specifically is that the British intend to replace the Polaris missiles on their submarines with Trident missiles, which the United States is to supply. But the same thing, the United States says: Yes, in principle we are in favor of removing the missiles, but we still have to supply the new missiles, otherwise relations with our allies will be upset, and so on. In other words, what we have is that when it is a matter of general terms, they say: Yes, your proposal looks alright. We will have to think about it and discuss it. But as soon as you get down to concrete detail, then reservations immediately appear. Because it would not be right simply to say no, they take some sort of roundabout way; but then in the end the answer is no all the same, just as it is now, for example, in Europe.

[Levin] True, I would say that, if one is speaking of the French and British positions, I get the impression that they are not absolutely identical. I have in mind the speech by French President Mitterrand, in which he answered questions from the Here and Now Clubs. In his speech there is a general appraisal of the situation. In particular, Mitterrand stressed that it must never be forgotten -- and these are his words -- that disarmament takes priority over armament for France.

[Bovin] Well, yes.

[Levin] That is the general postulate, but here is what Mitterrand had to say specifically: In the final analysis, we would agree to take part in talks on disarmament, if, first, the nuclear forces of the Soviet Union and the United States are considerably reduced. I am not referring to any numbers, because it does not befit me to refer to any numbers. On this matter there is a clear-cut proposal by the Soviet Union, a proposal for a 50 percent reduction in the first stage. The second conditions was that conventional, chemical, and all the other types of weapons are taken into account at the same time as nuclear weapons. Incidentally, this also is contained in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement of 15 January.

[Bovin] I support such a stern and realistic view of life. It is very pleasant for me, of course, to hear what you have just read from Mr Mitterrand's speech. But I nevertheless am convinced that if one goes on from these pleasant-sounding general declarations to specific deeds, things are not, I think, at all as pleasing as we would like. Indeed, the French will go on modernizing their nuclear forces, and I have the impression -- and this is being said quite clearly -- that at the present time there can be no question of a freeze. They are saying: Sometime, later, when there is this 50 percent, then we shall consider it. This means that they are automatically barring the way to removing Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles from Europe.

[Levin] Unfortunately, one cannot fail to agree with that.

[Bovin] No, indeed. Let me mention what Rogers, the commander in chief of NATO's forces in Europe said recently -- I think it was the day before yesterday...

[Levin, interrupting] Yes, it was in NEUE OSNABRUECKER ZEITUNG.

[Bovin] He said: What is the discussion about? Europe needs Pershing missiles and Europe needs U.S. cruise missiles. He said: What disarmament can there be? What zero option can there be? Even what the United States itself was proposing at one time does not suit him.

[Levin] But he is well aware that when they made their proposals it was with dishonest intentions and not in order to reach agreement, but rather to create an impression.

[Bovin] He needs the missiles and that is all. He has said so distinctly. That is the real position that the politicians sometimes attempt to draw a veil over and to dress up in all kinds of words, while the general blurts out the truth, so to speak.

[Levin] But his own truth, which is altogether in the present-day world meeting with mounting resistance.

[Bovin] Unfortunately, however, it is not meeting with resistance in either the White House or the Pentagon.

[Levin] Yes, that is certainly so. But in this connection I would like to mention the position of China, which is also a nuclear power.

[Bovin] China's position is as follows, and, incidentally, is an interesting point. there are two special assistants to the President and the secretary of state on disarmament questions, namely the well-known Paul Nitze and Edward Rowny. Well, Nitze went to Europe and Rowny to Asia for consultations -- as it was put -- with allies and friends, precisely on the subject of the Soviet proposals. Rowny visited China in order to consult with China about the Soviet statement. Well, I have the impression that in general, he was not given a very warm welcome in Beijing. After all, the Chinese are opposed, for example, to the "star wars" program, to which the Americans are tenaciously clinging. The Chinese are in principle, so to speak, in favor of disarmament, at some time or other, at any rate. However, they more or less regard us and the Americans as being on a par. You disarm, they say, and then we will see. This is approximately their position, the Chinese reiterated during the talks in Beijing with Rowny. These talks were very brief, it is true, as he was only there for 1 day.

[Levin] Han Xu, China's ambassador to the United States, gave an interview to the Japanese ASAHI. The Washington correspondent of this important Japanese newspaper asked outright how China regards the Soviet proposals for the elimination of nuclear weapons before the end of the century, and -- going on to mention what you were saying about the equal responsibility of the Soviet Union and the United States, the Chinese ambassador said that, if the United States and the USSR really intend to eliminate nuclear armaments, they should first of all make reductions of 50 percent in their nuclear arsenals. Once it is convinced that this has been achieved, China, we reckon, will be able to sit down at the negotiating table to discuss a reduction in its own nuclear armaments.

[Bovin] Compared with the stand adopted several years ago under Mao Tse-tung, this is certainly some kind of improvement. Let us hope that this is what will happen.

[Levin] Yes, but for the moment...

[Bovin, interrupting] The important thing is for them to tell the United States that they should agree to a 50 percent disarmament! That is the problem.

[Levin] For the moment, nevertheless, we are quite right to note, and justifiably note, that the 15 January statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was not only addressed to the United States, it was addressed to the whole world. But at present it is evident...

[Bovin, interrupting] Nevertheless, it was, of course mainly addressed to the United States.

[Levin] And we are awaiting a response from the United States. But along with these questions that are being amassed by the United States, its political line, after all, is also continuing to instill very great alarm. Take just the recent U.S. actions, that is to say, its foreign policy actions.

[Bovin] We are, of course, presently seeing, I would say, this very unrestrained and, perhaps I might say, emphatically impudent policy with regard, for instance, to Libya, where the United States has been traveling backwards and forwards daily in the Mediterranean. They have aircraft carriers there and aircraft. They are really trying to intimidate Libya, but they are doing so in vain.

[Levin] One U.S. journalist, explaining these nonstop provocative actions by the U.S. military off Libya's shores, has written outright that the task is to infuriate Libya and provoke her into some ill-considered action. This would thereby provide a pretext for the United States to resort to the use of military force on a broad scale against that independent state. Why is this? It is because Libya is not to the United States' liking and its anti-imperialist foreign policy -- which muddles up the United States' cards in the Near and Middle East -- is not to the United States liking. It is precisely for this reason that the United States does not disdain such measures, although in this regard it has recourse through various attempts to justify such actions by references to terrorism. But this so-called terrorism on Libya's part is in no way confirmed. At the same time, the United States' partner, ally, and lieutenant in the Near East, Israel, is perpetrating one terrorist act after another. Just recall the recent forced landing of a Libyan aircraft on Israeli territory. That was a glaring act of state terrorism.

[Bovin] Take Savimbi, whom the United States has just received. Well, he is fairly well-known figure, but from the viewpoint of, say, Reagan, Savimbi is altogether a person who should not evoke his particular sympathy. But, in order to spite the Angolan Government, the Cubans, and ourselves, they will make a fuss over this Savimbi and will provide him with money and weapons only to...

[Levin, interrupting] He is received in the White House, too.

[Bovin] Yes, only in order to play a dirty trick on the lawful Government of Angola. It is the same story with Nicaragua. In this regard, it is characteristic that in all these cases the United States is supporting rebels who are acting against lawful governments, with which -- not with all of them, but with some of which -- the United States has normal diplomatic relations. Take Afghanistan and take Nicaragua; they have ambassadors and diplomats resident in those countries. At the same time, the United States is backing people who are acting against these governments. There you have their policy.

[Levin] And where as yet there is no acute situation and where there exists a more or less normal situation, as for example in the Korean peninsula, the United States is trying to exacerbate the situation. Take the "Team Spirit" maneuvers. They are plainly intended to step up tension in the region and create a further hotbed of tension.

[Bovin] There is, of course, alas, nothing good coming from these maneuvers. From the viewpoint of this matter, the Chinese too have said that it is time to terminate the maneuvers, and North Korea also has proposed that this be done. No, once again the United States stubbornly refused. They will hold the maneuvers.

[Shishlin] If one looks at the U.S. President's message on the administration's legislative initiatives for fiscal 1982, then there is once again the foundation of a program for building up medium-range nuclear arms, not to mention strategic arms, the production of MX missiles, the production of Midgetman missiles, and others. But there is a great deal at stake. In actual fact, in fate of the whole process of smoothing out international relations is at stake. At stake is the fate of that task, which to me is the key task for 1986: the task of really reducing the level of military confrontation, the task of really overcoming those most painful, most complex problem areas which have an extremely bad effect on the whole world situation and on Soviet-U.S. relations in particular.

[Levin] If we are to talk, so to speak, of definite prospects, then what is at stake is the fate of mankind. So, of course, the situation in the world remains complicated and tense.

[Bovin] Well, someone said this: What is the difference in the world before Geneva and after Geneva? Before Geneva it was a world of confrontation, and now it is a world of confrontation with a dialogue. Well, that is also a good thing. Yes, a dialogue has begun between the United States and us and incidentally, it is continuing. Take the signing of the agreement on airplane flights. Some things will have to do with cultural exchanges and then there will be something else. These are all useful and necessary things. Some things, of course, continue to move along slowly. But confrontation remains in questions of politics and principle and we, comrades, should see this clearly. We want to perceive the world not through the prism of some kind of illusory notions, but as it is per se. We will do everything to improve the situation and use the opportunities which exist. But, we must look at things realistically.

[Levin] Many complexities remain and of course this includes the issue that was raised in the 15 January declaration by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on the need for a new way of thinking.

[Shishlin] Definitely. And in this respect, it seems to me that the United States simply does not yet fully understand and maybe has not at all come to understand that the nuclear age does indeed require a new way of thinking. It really does require a breaking away from those usual norms of relationships and methods of solving all kinds of conflicts that have been used by countries, nations, and people throughout the thousands of years of mankind's history.

[Levin] This appeared very clearly, particularly in the speeches of Secretary of Defense Weinberger on the Pentagon draft budget for the next fiscal year. He just repeats the old thesis that only force can guarantee the security of the United States, although experience now very clearly shows that force undermines security and we have to renounce these ideas, ideas which are, generally speaking, from the Stone Age.

[Bovin] Well, for example, if you have read Western scientific lieterature, what is being written by learned men, English, American, French, they have been working on this problem for a long time. They think in a new way. They are analyzing all this in a new way now, taking account of the realities of the nuclear age. But on the level of the politicians and of official administrations, well, of course, hold-ups occur there because the new way of thinking basically requires a major psychological change, a major intellectual change. It is such a high barrier. Here in this case, the U.S. Administration is incapable of getting over this barrier, even though in American literature, in newspapers and magazines, on the level of journalists, you can find as many common-sense, considered, intelligent thoughts as you like coming precisely from the new realities. But on the level of government, unfortunately, we are not yet seeing this, or we perhaps see only the beginnings, so to speak, of this.

When Reagan says that war cannot be won, now that is indeed an element of the new thinking. But unfortunately he does not draw all the conclusions he should from this statement. That is where the problem lies. Things stop in mid-thought and he gets stuck somewhere in the stagnant, traditional, old ideas.

[Shishlin] The value of the Soviet statement and the value of the recent speeches which develop and clarify those ideas contained in the statement -- and these clarifications were made by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev -- is precisely that the Soviet position considers not only the security interests of the Soviet Union but, to the same extent, the security interests of the United States and the security interests of other states. The sum of ideas that is contained in this statement has been formed from many points of view and the comparison of different points of view that were expressed throughout the last months of very intense political work, which was carried out in our mutual relations with different states, and first and foremost the socialist, nonaligned countries, and the developed capitalist states. In itself, this new approach to international relations will, of course, I understand, come up against the force of inertia, the force of habit and the force of traditional relations, but we have made the whole world speak of our ideas. A very full, important, and vital political struggle around these ideas has gotten underway. Not only people on a governmental level invested with a certain political authority are getting involved in this struggle, but the peoples are getting involved in this struggle and this, of course, is extremely important.

[Levin] Our task is to make sure that these ideas, these elements of new thinking without which mankind is simply doomed, are implemented. Our policy, and all the efforts of our party and our state, are concentrated on this. But the struggle before us is, it cannot be denied, a dogged, complex political struggle. We will go our part of the way. There is no doubt about that. We demonstrate this not only in words but also in concrete actions. Not everything in the world depends on us, and our friends and allies who fully support us in this cause. As an example, I would like to refer to an interview which Comrade Jaruzelski, the leader of Poland, gave to Italian television. The point is that the Italian television correspondent asked the question directly: What do you think of the proposals of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev concerning disarmament? Here is Comrade Jaruzelski's reply:

I consider these proposals to be, first, very wise; second, very bold; and third, very honest. It is a good thing that these proposals have not shared the fate of other earlier advanced proposals, that they were not rejected out of hand, but are being analyzed by the Western partners. It is important that we should all watch out that the analysis of these proposals is not deftly sidetracked and that the initiative is not put in doubt in any way. That would be a great loss.

That is the assessment of Comrade Jaruzelski. That is how he assesses the West's reaction, and it is a very realistic assessment.

[Shishlin] The fate of the ideas advanced by the Soviet Union depends, of course, in certain measure on the way in which Soviet-U.S. relations will develop, but not just on Soviet-U.S. relations. In this regard, of course, Europe can and must play its part in the improvement of international relations. It seems to me to be significant that our dialogue, the Soviet Union's dialogue with the European countries, has perciptibly been intensifying over all these past months, and in this respect, 1986 promises to be a particularly abundant year insofar as Moscow will be receiving senior politicians from the Western European states, and of course, our statesmen will have the opportunity to hold talks with the West European countries. We can naturally expect that in this European voice the ideas that are being worked out and generated by the socialist countries acting jointly will of course resonate appreciably.

The positive trend toward strengthening the coordiantion of actions of the socialist states, actions, which emerged so manifestly last year, will undoubtedly be consolidated in 1986. It is a substantial factor.

[Levin] With that, comrades, we come to the end of our program today. All the best to you. Thank you for your attention.

MELNIKOV COMMENTS ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS MEETING

PM181005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Igor Melnikov "Commentator's Column": "For Human Rights"]

[Text] The UN Human Rights Commission is now at work in Geneva. The very fact that this session is the 42d to date demonstrates the world community's constant interest in this problem.

Anyone who follows that forum's work will be more strongly convinced that year by year its content increasingly reflects the growing desire of most states' governments and of the international public that efforts be focused on maintaining peace. The present session also confirms taht safeguarding each person's fundamental right -- the right to life -- is the most important and necessary condition for realizing the whole spectrum of rights.

Life shows that in many parts of the world people are still being subjected to inhuman treatment and deprived of their elementary rights and freedoms. And this is happening where capital is king. Loud propaganda campaigns about imaginary violations of freedoms in the socialist countries are organized to divert attention from those facts and are based on fabrications. Meanwhile, the most flagrant human rights violations in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, in Chile, and southern Africa feature on the agenda of successive UN Commission sessions.

This demonstrates, on the one hand, the world community's steadfast determination to remove the centers of racism and racial discrimination and put an end to the dissemination of neo-Nazi ideology. On the other hand, the fact that acute problems remain unsolved indicates that racist and dictatorial regimes owe their "vitality" to generous financial sops, political support, and sometimes simply the bayonets of U.S. imperialism. In this context how can one forget Grenada, whose sovereignty was trampled by the U.S. assault forces' boots? So in the Palais des Nations now the pulloried Pinochet butchers, the champions of the apartheid policy in southern Africa. and the Israeli occupiers gloating over their victims will be accompanied invisibly by their patrons -- U.S. and West European financiers, owners of international monopolies, arms dealers and reactionary politicians.

The session in Geneva will examine questions of safeguarding socioeconomic rights. This problem has now become particularly acute -- the imperialist monopolies' predatory policy has doomed hundreds of millions of people to starvation and meant that entire countries cannot eliminate backwardness and poverty. Ways of combating attempts to revive Nazi ideology and a number of other topical problems will also be discussed. The important work to defend human rights in the mofern troubled world goes on.

PRAVDA EXAMINES SOVIET-U.S. TRADE RELATIONS

PM171648 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov article: "Time To Break Down the Barriers: U.S. Business Against Trade Discrimination"]

[Text] New York, 14 February -- At 3d Avenue and 46th Street in the very center of Manhattan stands the headquarters of Amtorg [American Trade Joint Stock Company]. It is dominated by lively business activity: Meetings and talks with representatives of U.S. firms are held here. Their requests are examined and companies are sought to carry out Soviet orders on mutually beneficial terms.

"We have established contacts with almost 250 U.S. firms," Amtorg Chairman Yu. Shcherbina said. "We not only do the ground work for the fulfillment of Soviet foreign trade organizations' requests but often sign the contracts, too.

The more than 60 years' activity of Amtorg, which began operating in New York as a joint stock company on 23 May 1924, provides an instructive chapter in the history of Soviet-U.S. cooperation. In the early seventies economic ties expanded to mutual benefit. But, as in the cold war period, all any administration had to do was set about sharply exacerbating the international situation and impose "restrictions" and "embargoes" on trade with the Soviet Union for this to immediately boomerang on U.S. business.

"Just look at how many artificial obstacles, restrictions, and different embargoes have been placed recently in the way of one contract or another," my interlocutor continued. "Take machinery and equipment, for example. There are many bans on their purchase and the acquisition of licenses. And yet it must be clear to any intelligent person that given the modern development of science and technology and the present level of the international division of labor there must be trade in this equipment. Or just take the ban on the supply of spare parts for certain types of previously acquired equipment. For that reason many of our customers in the Soviet Union were forced to look elsewhere for more reliable suppliers."

Late December 1981 came to mind. It was a dismal Christmas in Peoria, Illinois, where the Caterpillar company enterprises are located. The company had only just announced massive new layoffs. How opportune a profitable contract would have been then! But it was not to be. On the pretext of events in Poland which, by the way, were a purely internal matter for the Poles, the White House announced another "embargo." It also affected Caterpillar's delivery to the USSR of pipe-laying equipment under a contract already signed. Here is what I heard at that time from Caterpillar representative R. Newhouse:

"Unfortunately this will mean the dismissal of hundreds of our workers and employees. Furthermore, we shall lose our reputation as a reliable partner. And the order will clearly go to Japan."

That is indeed what happened. Mass layoffs began in Peoria. And the order was given to the Japanese company Komatsu. As the ignominious failure of the sanctions on the supply of equipment for the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline showed, the allies by no means always want to follow the White House's lead.

Our country is committed to a completely different approach. And this was reemphasized during the recent meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (ASTEC) in Moscow.

"We have very great plans," M.S. Gorbachev said to those taking part in the meeting, "for the development of our economy, science, and technology. And we would like to make maximum use to that end of the additional opportunities provided by international cooperation, including with the United States."

In the course of the Moscow meeting the U.S. businessmen, the most representative delegation in recent years, saw for themselves the opportunities that are opening up for cooperation with the Soviet Union. In their opinion the activation of trade and economic ties became possible after the Geneva summit when real prospects appeared for improving relations between our countries. At the same time it is patently obvious, ASTEC President J. Giffen stated, that trade is a two-way street and benefits both sides.

It is important, of course, that everyone in the United States understand that the USSR, itself a leader in a number of areas, is not a market for obsolete goods and will only buy that which meets high world standards. If the United States continues its present policy the Soviet Union will produce what it needs by itself or will obtain it in other countries.

"Together with American firms," Yu. Shcherbina continued, "we are now examining the possibility of carrying out over 30 major joint projects. In this connection around 20 requests and suggestions, some of them in the sphere of the power industry, the chemical industry, machine building, and the development of our agroindustrial complex, have been received since the December ASTEC session. We are finding many problems, however. After all, the traditional ties with U.S. companies had been broken off for many long years and you cannot rebuild them in a day. Against the background of the frenzied anti-Soviet campaign a number of firms were forced to close down departments that dealt with us. Now we are trying, with our U.S. partners, to restore the broken links. But it is no easy matter.

...I looked through the list of manufacturing equipment and licenses sold to the United States recently with Amtorg's active assistance. Companies such as Reynolds, Kaiser Aluminum, and Alcoa have acquired Soviet technology for casting aluminum in a magnetic field. Texas Utilities have bought technology for the underground gasification of coal and MacDermott acquired contact welding technology. Multi Arc Vacuum bought Soviet pressure coating technology and equipment, and Air Products and Chemicals acquired air fractionating equipment. And in March this year the flow lines of Medical Technology Development, a medical equipment plant in Clearwater, Florida, will begin producing the world's most sophisticated scalpels for eye microsurgery and other instruments and equipment ranging from artificial silicone crystals to computer programs capable of measuring and evaluating the extent of eye damage and of providing advice to surgeons. Eye microsurgery equipment and instruments developed and created at the Moscow eye microsurgery scientific research institute and now produced under license in the United States will help restore many Americans' sight. These examples show that there are things for U.S. companies to buy in the USSR.

However, the administration continues to act to the detriment of U.S. business. For example, scarcely had the ASTEC session ended when U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz again stated that official Washington has no intention of reviewing the discriminatory trade barriers against the Soviet Union. Furthermore, new moves are being made toward making the conditions of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation more rigid. As though on someone else's orders the Pentagon is publishing a series of "reports" on the undermining of U.S. national security if scientific and technical ties between our countries are expanded.

American business expects a different approach from the administration. Here are a few examples. For 40 years now Amtorg has maintained business ties between Soviet foreign trade organizations and one of America's largest companies, Du Pont de Nemours.

For example, the latter acquired from the Soviet Union a pharmaceutical preparation called ethmosene, used in the struggle against cardiovascular disease. Du Pont, in turn, offers chemical products. "We have always viewed the Soviet Union as a reliable partner and express the firm desire to expand our mutually beneficial trade and economic ties," company Vice President C. Demartino told me.

M. Kallen, vice president of Monsanto, shares that opinion. For 25 years that major chemical company has been trading with the Soviet Union. "Trade with your country," M. Kallen believes, "is very profitable for us. That is why we are now examining plans for expanding cooperation through 1990."

Many U.S. politicians are aware of the benefit of expanding trade and economic ties on the one hand and the harmful consequences of the different restrictions on the other. "I have long been worried that the United States has become a country that very often harms itself in trade," Texas Senator L. Bentsen felt compelled to admit in a letter addressed to Commerce Secretary M. Baldrige. In that context he cited the following fact. Prior to the embargo on the supply of petroleum equipment to the Soviet Union the United States took 35 percent of that expanding market. Now that figure is down to just 0.4 percent. Between 1979 and 1983 alone the United States lost orders worth more than $1.7 billion. The USSR obtained the equipment it needed in other countries or began producing it by itself.

However, it is not just a question of petroleum and gas equipment deliveries. According to U.S. Department of Commerce figures, each R1 billion of U.S. exports creates an extra 25,000 jobs.

In the opinion of W. Verity, member of the Armco board of directors, the expansion of trade would undoubtedly help to improve relations between our countries and create the political climate for confidence.

Voices in favor of such a development are also being heard in Washington. In practice, however, its moves are not only far removed from the joint commitments in Geneva, including on the development of trade and economic ties, but at times directly contradict them. The visit to Amtorg, however, confirms how necessary it is to be faithful in deeds not words to those commitments if we are to serve both countries' interests and strive to normalize the international situation.

NAVAL EXERCISES CONFIRM U.S. 'STATE TERRORISM'

PM141709 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch under the general heading "State Terrorism"]

[Text] Washington, 13 Feb -- With the resumption of provocative U.S. military maneuvers in the central Mediterranean the situation has again grown dangerously heated. American officials acknowledge that two U.S. Navy strike groupings headed by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga have been ordered to carry out "the most obvious gunboat diplomacy" to intimidate Libya. Judging by press articles, the top echelons of the administration are seriously considering delivering "punitive strikes" against Libyan installations. THE WASHINGTON POST writes today that the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff have drafted and endorsed plans to bomb Libya using the naval squadron assembled close to Libya's territorial waters. However, for quite obvious reasons the United States would not want to appear to be the "instigator" of military conflict. Therefore, correspondents here are remarking, it is counting on embroiling Libya in confrontation.

It is expected that this demonstration of U.S. "military muscle" will reach a critical stage in March, when the participants in the present acts of provocation are joined by the aircraft carrier America. With the arrival of reinforcements, the Pentagon intends to extend the maneuvers right up to the Gulf of Sidra, which Libya considers its own territorial waters.

Is it worth saying that America's disgraceful actions regarding an independent country are way out of line with international law, confirming yet again that state terrorism is an integral part of the American administration's policy.

HABIB VISIT MAY EXACERBATE PHILIPPINE SITUATION

LD171858 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1548 GMT 17 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] It is not calm in the Philippines where the presidential elections have not relieved the situation. President Marcos does not conceal his satisfaction at his victory and has said that he is prepared to reach a reasonable political compromise with the opposition. But Corazon Aquino, leader of the opposition who was defeated, is trying to dispute the results of voting. She asserts that regulations were violated in the vote counting. In the central square in Manila there was a mass demonstration by Aquino supporters who are threatening to paralyze the country by a general strike.

Washington clearly wishes that passions would subside as quickly as possible and that everything would remain as before; the main thing is that U.S. interests should not suffer and that its military and economic interests should not suffer. This is why Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy, has arrived urgently in the Philippines. Incidentally, certain observers think that this visit will not play a peacemaking role, but, on the contrary, will harm and exacerbate the situation still further. In this connection, it is worth recalling the arrival of a group of U.S. observers for the elections, the Pentagon's promise to send military advisers to the Philippines, the U.S. President's words about the particular importance of the U.S. military bases in that country, and finally, the promise to give the Philippines fresh aid if, of course, they continue to respect U.S. interests in the future.

U.S. PLANS IN HAITI BASED ON GRENADA MODEL

LD131930 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Reports by the international press agencies attest to the fact that the situation in Haiti remains tense. In various of the country's towns mass demonstrations are taking place, in which the participants are calling for the establishment of a genuinely national government in place of a junta of pro-American puppets. They also want the return to Haiti of the dictator Duvalier, who has fled, his immediate trial, and the confiscation from the Duvalier family of hundreds of millions of dollars stolen from the Haitian people and kept in secret accounts in Swiss banks.

The tone of the U.S. press, in reporting the situation in Haiti, is set by the obvious nervousness in Washington. Having arranged the replacement of the bankrupt tyrant by a junta composed of his associates -- there is no longer any doubt that this was carried out by the U.S. secret services -- Washington hoped to defuse the situation and take the heat out of the rising rebellion, while basically leaving everything else as it was.

The fact that Haiti is only a few dozen kilometers from the shores of socialist Cuba and occupies a strategic position in the Caribbean basin is of decisive importance to Washington. Reports which have found their way into the U.S. press today show that this is the reason why a scenario is being drafted in the U.S. capital to make provision for the fact that events in Haiti could get out of U.S. control -- just in case. And all the indications are that this scenario is being compiled on the model of that for Grenada, presupposing direct intervention by the U.S. Armed Forces in events in the country.

REAGAN'S VISIT TO GRENADA 'NEW POLITICAL FARCE'

LD151714 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Havana February 15 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan is to pay a one-day visit to Grenada next week where he plans to meet leaders of some Caribbean states. In connection with preparations for the visit the White House is mounting a vociferous campaign whose principal goal is to conceal from the world public the true meaning of the new political farce.

The White House alleges that the meeting will give centre stage to "economic" problems. Observers believe, however, with good reason that these contentions are used by Washington only as a cover up for cobbling together a reactionary military-political bloc which would assume the functions of a policeman in that region. It is far from fortuitous that Grenada was chosen as a venue for the meeting, the commentaries point out.

It is exactly this island Caribbean state that became one of the first victims to the U.S. policy of vigorously fanning up regional conflicts and intensifying U.S. intervention in the affairs of other countries, which was epitomised in the so-called "neo-globalism doctrine". In keeping with this imperialist doctrine, the United States wages undeclared wars on Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan and other states.

Following the visit of the U.S. president to Barbados in 1982, a division is known to have emerged in the sub-regional association of Caribbean English-speaking states under pressure from Washington on the question of membership in it of revolutionary Grenada. This was soon entailed by the formation of a pro-American bloc led by Jamaica and Barbados and also the establishment on U.S. and British funds of the "regional security and defence system". It was designed by Washington to counteract an upsurge in the national-liberation movement in the region. The rulers of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica and some other Caribbean countries betrayed the interests of their peoples and backed the U.S. gangster invasion of Grenada.

According to the designs of the U.S. Administration, the "Caribbean peace maintenance forces" will become the nucleus of a new military and political bloc that is being hastily knocked together by Washington. To this end, the Pentagon actually converted international airport at Point Salines, work to build which was started under the Maurice Bishop government, into an airforce base. The move, planned by the White House, to "bless" this airport, on whose land the blood of hundreds of innocent people was shed during the U.S. intervention, looks as undisguised cynicism and an insult to the Grenadians' national feelings.

Far from all leaders of Caribbean states were invited to the meeting with Reagan, news agencies point out. For instance, Guyana was passed over in silence. It is understandable that Washington's plans did not include participation in this farce of representatives of a country which condemned the U.S. occupation of Grenada and opposes gross U.S. interference in the internal affairs of other states in the region.

U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT 'GARISH PROPAGANDA'

LD152032 Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 15 TASS -- TASS Correspondent Nikolay Orekhov reports:

The U.S. State Department has issued an annual report on human rights practices in various countries of the world over. Yet, already in the first reading of that "research paper" one cannot but note its garish propaganda character. The main efforts of the authors of the report are aimed at trying to justify the cooperation of the USA with the repressive and dictatorial regimes. Simultaneously they are pouring streams of lies and slanders on the states, whose policy does not suit the Washington administration's book.

The political face of the authors of the report is particularly clearly seen when it comes to the issue of Nicaragua. They have collected all the foul inventions and rumours spread by the enemies of the Sandinist revolution, but are at the same time trying to justify the activity of the anti-government gangs of "contras" and relieve them of all charges of making short shrift of the peaceful population. In its zeal the U.S. State Department is trying to call in question even the facts proved by documents of international public organisations and mass media in the United States itself.

The praise lavished in the report on the bloody dictatorship of General Pinochet in Chile is the limit of cynicism. While recognising in a vague form the fact of "restriction of most of the basic political liberties" in that country, State Department experts lay the blame for that on...the Chilean patriots, who are fighting for their homeland's freedom. The State Department is also trying to justify by the same references to "guerrilla actions" the terror perpetrated by the Salvadorean authorities against that country's peaceful population.

An even clumsier attempt is made by the authors of the document at justifying Washington's support for Haitian dictator Duvalier, whose bloody regime had been deposed by the time the report was issued. Citing numerous examples of the violation of human rights by Duvalier and his entourage, the State Department has, nevertheless, found it necessary to praise the dictator hateful to all Haitians for, as is claimed in the report, "reckoning with international opinion".

REPUBLICANS WAGING STRUGGLE FOR REAGAN 'HERITAGE'

LD150315 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1950 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Together with you, comrades, I would now like to peek behind the political scenes of the U.S. capital.

Only scant information of the unfolding events is penetrating the tightly closed doors of Washington offices; nonetheless, this will have the most vital political consequences. Reports which are being quoted in certain U.S. papers and magazines in recent days are evidence that the struggle for what in the party's ruling clique is called Reagan's heritage is getting under way, and is assuming an increasingly acute nature.

Even though the president in office is holding the reins of government firmly in his hands, powerful forces who determine who is who in the Republican Party are engaged in the search for the politician who will head the Republicans in the next election. According to the Constitution which is in force, Reagan cannot run for a third term. Who will take his place? This question has been thrown in fairly sharp relief already now, even though the elections will not take place until the autumn of 1988. An especially acute struggle on the remote approaches of the presidential campaign has gotten under way in the Republican camp, where every effort is being made to remain the ruling party.

The strongest position, inasmuch as one can judge, is held by George Bush, the present U.S. vice president. His trump card is his position as second man in the administration and the direct access to the levers of power connected with this.

Bush is 62 years old. He is the son of a big banker who at one time held the post of United States senator. Coming from a rich family, he studied in the country's most privileged educational institutions. During World War II he was a pilot and served in the Pacific theater. After the war, using family capital, he founded a petroleum recovery corporation and made a large fortune. After that Bush entered the sphere of politics. After an unsuccessful attempt to become a senator, he eventually secured a place as a member of the House of Representatives. His vigorous support for the aggression in Vietnam caught Richard Nixon's attention. Bush held various senior posts in the Nixon government. He was the U.S. representative at the UN, the chairman of the Republican National Committee, and the chief of a legation in China. After that he was entrusted with the post of director of the Central Intelligence Agency, which he had to leave after Carter became president. At one time George Bush was Reagan's rival in the struggle for the post of president, but then a compromise was reached and he contented himself with the seat of vice president. Both Bush's service record and his present position, it would seem, do not leave his rivals in the Republican Party any chances.

However, in the past few days news has filtered into the press to the effect that influential representatives of the party's ruling clique prefer gambling not on Bush, but on Jack Kemp, 50, a member of the House of Representatives, who is on the extreme right wing of the Republican Party. While the position of the influential and experienced Bush is connected with a long and slow climb up the party hierarchy ladder, Kemp's ascent is considered unexpected by many. This who knew him at the start of his career noted the mediocre capabilities of this politician. Even in the official American reference book "Current Biography," which usually smooths over sharp edges, the following detail is mentioned: He was an extremely poor student, especially in the study of courses of history and other humanitarian sciences. The only thing Kemp excelled in was sports. Indeed, Kemp's initial all-American fame is connected with football. At the end of the forties and beginning of the fifties he was one of the country's best known professional football players. After the end of his sporting career he caught the eye of representatives of the right wing of the Republican Party, who decided to make use of his football popularity for the party's purposes. As a result, Kemp took an active part in the election campaigns of Goldwater, Nixon, and Reagan, for which he was awarded by Reagan with a post in the White House staff. [as heard]

However, as you understand, all this is insufficient for becoming a favorite of influential leaders of the Republican Party.

Kemp's main political trump card is his extreme reactionary attitudes in the sphere both of foreign and domestic policy, attitudes which are so offensive that even such a conservative as Bush, compared to him, is declared to be a liberal by right-wing reactionaries. It is of course early to speak at the present stage of the comparative chances of the candidate for the post of leader of the Republican Party, but the appearance itself of the name of the reactionary Kemp in this list is a sufficiently eloquent fact.

A few other party leaders are also aspiring to the post of president. Mentioned among them are the names of Senator Dole, former Senator Baker, who are ranked as belonging to the political center of the Republican Party, and also the not unknown Jeane Kirkpatrick, who is competing with Kemp for the right to become the favorite of the extreme reactionaries.

Of course, the decisive skirmishes for political leadership are still far off. However, the fact that they are getting under way already now, and the fact of who is aspiring to leadership testify to the acuteness of the internal political situation in the United States, and of that internal struggle that is being waged inside the Washington ruling clique.

DOUBTS RAISED ON CIVILIAN NATURE OF NEW AIRCRAFT

LD160223 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Vladimir Kozakov commentary]

[Text] In his recent State of the Union address President Reagan announced another prestigious technological project of his administration. The President said that the United States will go ahead with the development of a new type of aircraft capable of traveling over great distances over a very short time. The President said that by the end of the decade airliners traveling at 25 times the speed of sound will be taking off from ordinary airports to reach a low orbit and then glide to their destination. The President said that the new aircraft, or, as he put it, the Eastern Express, will be used for civilian purposes and among other things for taking passengers from the United States to Japan or any other part of the world.

In its comment on the Presidential address, THE WASHINGTON POST has, however, said that on many occasions in the past the President's (?dream) language appears to have masked a military reality. There are indications that the military have been dreaming of an aircraft of that kind for many years and Air Force pilots would not mind taking a ride in it. The military offer a different interpretation of the purpose of the aircraft. They say that it might be a good idea if the United States Air Force had an aircraft capable of deflying any antiaircraft defense system and delivering nuclear weapons to targets in any part of the world. To those who have followed the United States space program this comes as no surprise. Suffice it to recall the early stages of the shuttle program. The shuttle program, Washington said, is a civilian undertaking financed by NASA, a nonmilitary government agency. The military were waiting in the wings. The shuttle program was from the very beginning tailored to the Pentagon's needs, but this, of course, was something not to be talked about. Many years after the start of the shuttle program it was announced that a third of shuttle missions are to be classified and military.

Following the Challenger disaster it was announced that the three next missions will be postponed. Scientific programs are to be resumed later and missions to study the sun and Jupiter, scheduled for May, are to be postponed for 13 months. The Pentagon, however, is pressing ahead with a military shuttle mission. It looks as though the Pentagon is prepared not only to postpone scientific programs but to cut them short altogether for the sake of its own preparations for "star wars". After the Apollo moon landings scientists were thinking of a mission to Mars, relying on what has been achieved by the Apollo program, These dreams have never materialized and all the projects were called off as too costly. At the same time the Pentagon was clearly thinking of taking over the United States space program. There was some speculation in scientific and political circles that NASA might be closed down. After a long discussion it was decided, however, that NASA should remain. It is becoming increasingly clear that this was done to cover up large-scale military space programs undertaken for ostensibly civilian and scientific purposes. But still every new NASA undertaking is declared civilian.

Let us recall President Reagan's speech announcing the start of work on a permanent space station. That project, too, was declared to be strictly civilian. The Pentagon, however, worked on a project of that kind some 20 years ago. At the time it proved far too complicated but the military continued to think of having astronauts in orbit on a permanent basis for intelligence gathering, communications, testing of space weapons and command purposes. If we look further back into history we recall that work on a stratosphere bomber was in progress in Nazi Germany. German scientists who worked on that project later moved to the United States where they continued their work. The Pentagon has clearly been dreaming of such a system and now it's been announced that the United States is going ahead with the project which, in keeping with tradition, has been declared civilian and exclusively peaceful.

TRIAL LAUNCH OF U.S. TOMAHAWK MISSILE NOTED

LD160941 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0004 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, 16 Feb (TASS) -- A representative of the U.S. Department of the Navy has announced that a trial launch of a Tomahawk cruise missile, capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, took place Saturday in the area of the Florida coast. The Pentagon is equipping both submarine and surface vessles of the U.S. Navy with Tomahawks. They have been installed on 20 vessels already at present. The program to develop [razvertyvaniye] land- and air-based cruise missiles is also being carried out in the United States at full speed. The Pentagon is laying no small stake on this type of first-strike weapon in its attempts to disrupt military-strategic parity with the Soviet Union, while pushing the arms race further on.

ARKHIPOV REPORTEDLY TO VISIT PRC IN MARCH

HK180850 Hong Kong AFP in English 0839 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Excepts] Beijing, Feb 18 (AFP) -- Soviet First Vice-Premier Ivan Arkhipov is to pay an official two-week visit to China next month, a Soviet diplomatic source said here today.

Mr. Arkhipov would be heading a Soviet delegation to a meeting of a Sino-Soviet commission created last July, the source said, adding that the commission each year was to review bilateral economic, scientific and cultural relations.

The exact dates for his visit, due to last about two weeks, had yet to be set, the source said, but observers thought that it would be after the close of the upcoming Soviet Communist Party Congress scheduled to end around mid-March.

ANNIVERSARY OF AMITY TREATY WITH PRC NOTED

OW151840 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Station observer Ivanov commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, a Soviet-Chinese treaty of friendship, alliance, and mutual assistance was signed 36 years ago on 24 February 1950. In this connection, our station observer on foreign affairs Ivanov has the following to say:

Both the Soviet and the Chinese people warmly welcomed the signing of this treaty. A 1,000-strong rally was held in Beijing on 18 February 1950. It was pointed out there that Soviet-Chinese friendship and cooperation were of great significance for safeguarding and consolidating the PRC's independence and developing its economy and scientific and technological undertakings. Based on this treaty, agreements on bilateral trade and economic, scientific, technological, and other exchanges were signed.

In fulfilling the obligations stipulated in the treaty, the Soviet Union supplied China with everything it needed. To help China overcome difficulties during its rehabilitation period and smash the U.S. imperialists' conspiracy to strangle the young republic with a blockade, our two countries conducted, on an equal basis, mutually beneficial cooperation. This enabled China to lay the foundations for modern industries during a short time and establish a number of basic industrial enterprises it had never had. The Changchun automobile plant, the Loyang tractor plant, high furnaces of the Anshan, the Wuhan, and the Baotou iron and steel plants, and the magnificent Wuhan bridge marked the milestones in the history of Soviet-Chinese cooperation in the fifties.

Under Soviet assistance, China set up not only automobile and tractor manufacturing industries, but also petrochemical, heavy machine-building, aircraft, atomic energy, and defense industries. These were China's new industries built with Soviet technical and economic assistance. Under Soviet assistance, China built some 250 large industrial enterprises and other projects for the national economy. In fact, the Soviet Union provided China, free of charge, with 24,000 sets of scientific and technological information, including blueprints for 1,400 large enterprises. Large numbers of China's skilled workers were trained with Soviet experts' assistance at construction sites in China and at enterprises and schools in the Soviet Union.

From the late fifties to the early sixties Soviet-Chinese relations began to deteriorate, not through the fault of the Soviet Union. Economic and other cooperation between the two countries gradually diminished. In 1979, the Chinese side announced that it did not wish to renew the Soviet-Chinese treaty of friendship, alliance, and mutual assistance. The starting point of the Soviet policy toward China is always that the Soviet Union clearly realizes that equal and allround cooperation between the two countries coincides with the vital interests of the people of our two countries, the interests of international socialism, and the interests of the anti-imperialist struggle.

In recent years, Soviet-Chinese relations have improved. For example, mutually beneficial contacts have been resumed in economic, cultural, scientific, and other fields, and Soviet-Chinese political consultations have been held on a regular basis. The Soviet people are pleased with the improvement in Soviet-Chinese relations.

PRAVDA CITES HANOI PAPER'S CRITICISM OF PRC

PM151857 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "NHAN DAN Commentary"]

[Text] Hanoi, 15 Feb -- NHDN DAN, the organ of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee, has published an editorial commentary entitled "Beijing's Hostile Policy Against the Vietnamese People Is Doomed To Fail." The article points out that the PRC has circulated in the United Nations a "memorandum" which falsely claims that Vietnam is stepping up its armed provocations on the border with China. In this "memorandum" Beijing crudely falsifies the real situation on the Vietnamese-Chinese border, groundlessly accuses Vietnam of pursuing an anti-Chinese state policy, and tries to blame Vietnam for crimes committed by the Chinese side.

The article notes that the Vietnamese side recently put forward a proposal for a ceasefire on the border to mark the celebration of the lunar new year. At a conference of foreign ministers in Vientiane, the three Indochinese countries reaffirmed their sincere desire for a normalization of relations with the PRC. Laos and the PRK welcomed the SRV's efforts to resume the Vietnamese-Chinese talks. However, China has not replied to any of these goodwill gestures.

The Chinese artillery shelling of SRV territory, which did not cease even during the period of new year celebrations, is described in the commentary as a "sop to the U.S. generals arriving in Beijing for talks on military cooperation between the two countries."

NHAN DAN rejects China's accusations concerning the so-called intensification of anti-Chinese propaganda in the SRV and stresses that Vietnam is "showing restraint in this sphere whereas China does not stop raining torrents of slander on the SRV."

In conclusion the commentary reaffirms Vietnam's desire for a normalization of relations with China.

FISHERY TALKS WITH JAPAN SUSPENDED 15 FEBRUARY

LD151738 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 15 TASS -- On the proposal of the Japanese delegation it has been decided to suspend temporarily the second session of the Soviet-Japanese Commission of Fisheries, which was set up under the inter-governmental agreement of December 7, 1984.

The talks examining the terms for mutual fishing in the 200-mile economic zones of the two countries in 1986, has been continuing since late in December. As a TASS correspondent was told at the USSR Ministry of Fisheries, the stands of the sides have somewhat drawn closer recently, yet, the outstanding differences remain essential.

The Soviet side has put forward a number of new compromise decisions for the speediest attainment of agreements, that would enable the fishermen of two countries to start fish catch. Thus, it has agreed to allow Japanese ships to start fishing in the Soviet economic zones with deep sweeps and tiers at depths of more than 300 metres.

It has been proposed that the fish catch quota within the framework of mutual fishing be increased to reach up to 300 thousand tons, despite the fact that it is more difficult for the Soviet seamen to land such a quota in Japan's zones as a result of various restrictions. Last year, for example, as a result of the tough fishing terms, the Soviet fishermen landed in Japan's zone only 145 thousand tons of fish. Albeit their quotas were set at 600 thousand tons.

The Soviet side has also agreed to some concessions as regards the size of the compensation for additional quota and as regards the volume of catch of some fish species within the framework of the quotas.

The Japanese side has not given a positive answer to these proposals, and agreement has only been reached to resume the session in the USSR. The timing will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

DEFECTOR ARRIVES IN JAPAN, SEEKS ASYLUM IN U.S.

OW160923 Tokyo KYODO in English 0917 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 16 KYODO -- A 32-year-old crewman of a Soviet fishing boat arrived in Tokyo Sunday seeking asylum in the United States.

Valerii Vacheslavovich Polyanin was picked up by Japanese fishermen Friday while drifting in a rubber raft in the Sea of Japan coastal waters off Aomori Prefecture, northern Japan. He has expressed his wish to defect to the United States according to Japanese Foreign Ministry authorities. They said Soviet Embassy officials will meet him to confirm if he really wants to go to the United States.

The steersman of the Mys Bubushkina said he jumped off from the Soviet trawler Friday morning when it was traveling in the Tsugaru Strait between Honshu and Hokkaido.

CRITICISM OF 'TEAM SPIRIT' EXERCISES CONTINUES

DPRK Meeting

PM171317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS reports: "Dangerous Maneuvers"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 13 Feb -- An extraordinary enlarged session of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland which was held here, emphasized that the "Team Spirit-86" American-South Korean military maneuvers have resulted in a further exacerbation of the situation in the Korean peninsula and the suspension of the North-South dialogue.

The session participants adopted an appeal to the U.S. people and an appeal to South Korean political parties, public organizations, and representatives of various circles in which they call on them to take resolute action against the policy of confrontation and the aggressive U.S. actions in South Korea. This new show of strength is not just a blatantly provocative and hostile act in relation to the DPRK, it also furthers the implementation of U.S. expansionist plans in the Far East and throughout Asia.

These documents point out that the DPRK has invariably favored a relaxation of tension. The concrete peaceable proposals put forward by the DPRK Government serve this aim. The appeal to the U.S. people calls on them to further broaden the antiwar and antinuclear movement and to join the peace-loving forces' struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and the establishment of a nuclear-free zone, a zone of peace in the Korean peninsula.

The "Team Spirit-86" American-South Korean maneuvers are causing serious concern and alarm among the peace-loving public of the countries of the Asian and Pacific region, they create a direct threat to the DPRK, and infringe the security interests of the Soviet Union and other countries. This is stated in a statement of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

Korean Peace Threatened

OW151129 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From "Novosti" newscast; Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The large-scale military exercise by the U.S. and South Korean Armed Forces, "Team Spirit-86", is becoming ever more dangerous in character.

[Alekseyev] Hello comrades. We reported a few months ago that, according to an agreement reached between the DPRK and South Korean governments, people from the North and South could freely cross the border dividing the Korean peninsula because of U.S. aggression some time ago, visit each other, and meet their friends and relatives. Their excited and happy faces are still remembered. At that time, the mutual visits of Korean families divided by war were judged by all, and firstly by the Koreans themselves, as an important step to the peaceful reunification of their country. At that time, the DPRK Government proposed to take a new and no less significant step, not to conduct major military exercises in and around the Korean peninsula.

Alas, the Seoul regime and its staunch protector, the United States, answered this peaceful initiative first with an intensification of military preparations in South Korea, and lately with joint military exercises designated "Team Spirit."

Representatives of military commands, both from the United States and South Korea, hastened to assure us that these maneuvers are defensive, having nothing to do with North-South Korean dialogue. But that does not change the essence of the matter. Pentagon war games now involve a record number, over 200,000 South Korean and U.S. military personnel. Warships of the U.S. 7th Fleet, aircraft, cruise missiles, and other combat equipment have been concentrated in close proximity to the DPRK border. The DPRK was forced to place its Armed Forces in a state of increased combat readiness. The situation has acquired an extremely dangerous character. Does it contribute to the peaceful reunification of Korea which, by the way, the U.S. Administration invariably advocates verbally. It is obvious that it does not. It is evident that it also undermines the foundations of security in the Asia-Pacific region, and creates a threat to universal peace.

Linked With Plans for Japan

LD141959 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] For several days now South Korea has been the site of a major American-South Korean "Team Spirit-86" exercises. Sponsored by the Pentagon, the maneuvers cover much of the Korean peninsula and adjacent areas. Taking part are more than 200,000 United States and South Korean servicemen, aircraft, naval vessels, nuclear-powered submarines included, and other hardware. Our observer (Sergey Ruslanov) contributed this comment.

Although the exercises' scenario is kept secret it is aimed, as in previous years according to the press, at practising large-scale troops landing operations. The maneuvers involve American Marines airlifted from Okinawa. In other words "Team Spirit-86" is another rehearsal of United States swift punitive actions in the world's hotspots. For the 11th time the Korean peninsula south of the 38th parallel is becoming a huge area for big joint maneuvers in the Pacific. What's indicative is that if the first "Team Spirit" series involved about 45,000 servicemen, today's figure is nearly five times over. This indicates that the Pentagon regards the region as exceedingly important in its global strategy and its means not only South Korea, where some 300 United States military facilities with 1,000 nuclear warheads are located.

Washington sets aside a similar role to play for Japan, it's yet another close ally in the region. It's an open secret that the Pentagon plans a new military alliance in the Pacific of Washington, Seoul and Tokyo. The United States has been pursuing this objective consistently and by plan. As a rule the Pentagon has been inviting for "Team Spirit" maneuvers not only its permanently stationed forces on South Korea and the United States west coast, but also troops from bases in Japan. Representatives of Japan's national defense department have been attending the exercises as observers in recent times. Thus Tokyo has been getting increasingly associated with United States plans to set up a military alliance of the three countries. More than that, Japan has agreed that its air force would join American troops in an exercise near the Korean peninsula. Under Washington's massive pressure agreement was reached in principle between Tokyo and Seoul to exchange visits by naval vessels. Japan has pledged to provide Seoul with economic and military aid, and this commitment is being implemented. According to official statistics the Japanese taxpayers annually cash 4 million yen, or up to $20,000 to maintain each of the 40,000 American soldiers in South Korea.

As a result the United States has gradually been vigorously pushing its Far Eastern allies to forming a Far Eastern alliance similar to NATO. Why the United States needs a military bloc in the Pacific is common knowledge. Its main goal is to threaten the national liberation movements in the Pacific and Asia, dictate its terms to sovereign nations and achieve military superiority in this strategically important region. Such irresponsible steps undermine the difficult process of reunifying Korea peacefully.

The consequences of all this for both the members of the alliance and other nations in the region are clear. This can only lead to a further arms race and great attention and ultimately a greater risk of a serious military conflict, and that is why the peace forces and all nations of Asia are resolutely opposed to the aggressive policy of the United States, and demand that the Asian Pacific region be made a zone of peace and security. Many initiatives of the socialist nations in Asia, and among them the Soviet proposals for a comprehensive approach to security in the region, were advanced with that goal in mind.

DPRK Embassy Briefing

LD101530 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Text] A news conference for USSR and foreign journalists was held at the DPRK Embassy in Moscow today in connection with the decision by the Washington administration and the South Korean authorities to hold joint military maneuvers on the territory of South Korea on 10 February. Major General Kim Hak-san, the military, naval, and air force attache at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR who spoke at the news conference, spoke highly of the recent TASS statement in which the USSR resolutely condemned the actions of Washington and Seoul and called for support for the DPRK's proposal on turning the Korean peninsula into a peace zone.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH DPRK EXAMINED

SK140930 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Talk by (Yuriy Serinikov), "responsible functionary" of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations]

[Text] As you listeners well know, the level of economic ties maintained between our two countries was appraised in an affirmative manner in the recent talks held between Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, and Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. At the same time, the need to further expand these ties was noted in these talks.

I would like to recall that a protocol for developing trade and economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea from 1986 to 1990 was signed in Moscow at the end of December last year. This protocol envisages a remarkable increase in the total exchange of goods during the present 5-year plan period and the further expansion of economic ties between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. In other words, economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea will reach a new summit. This cooperation will be more than doubled in 5 years. Soviet economic and technical aid for the development of the important sectors of the people's economy of the DPRK, including the ferrous and nonferrous metal, machine manufacturing, energy -- including atomic energy -- and coal industrial sectors, will be the basic content of this cooperation.

Let us cite several examples of this. Our country has continuously aided fraternal Korea in the direction of further expanding the Kim Chaek steel mill. The production capacity of this steel mill will reach the level of 2,300,000 tons of steel annually. In other words, the production capacity of this steel mill will increase by 1.4 times. The steel mill has been equipped with a new electronic furnace and with a continuous steel casting system, and other production capacities have increased at this steel mill. The delivery of major parts of necessary equipment has already been completed. A group of our engineers and technicians has left for the DPRK to assemble and operate this equipment.

Two enterprises that will occupy an important position in the people's economic sector in the Republic will be inaugurated this year. This will be of great significance in developing other industrial sectors in the country. These enterprises include an aluminium and a bearing plant. If these plants are inaugurated, the DPRK will be able to completely meet its own demand for the goods needed. For example, the Yongsong bearing plant will annually produce 10 million bearings of various kinds and sizes. Some of these goods will be delivered to the Soviet Union in accordance with the principle of the distribution of products.

Cooperation between our two countries has been effectively realized in the energy sector. It is expected that the Chongjin thermal power plant will be inaugurated in the first half of 1986 after completing assembling work as the fourth thermal power plant built in people's Korea with Soviet aid. Soviet leaders are now preparing blueprints for the construction of a new east Pyongyang thermal power plant capable of producing 200,000 milowatts of electricity and of the first nuclear power plant in the DPRK.

Soviet-Korean cooperation has been realized successfully in the coal industrial sector — in increasing the annual production of coal by 5 million tons at the Anju colliery. In accordance with blueprints prepared by Soviet technicians, two new collieries and ore dressing plants are being built. The work of equipping these enterprises with high-speed excavators, loaders, coal-mining combines, and conveyor belt systems is in the stage of completion.

The Soviet Union is aiding people's Korea is launching the comprehensive survey work for tapping oil deposits on the DPRK continental shelf through the use of the method of [words indistinct]. A group of Soviet technicians staying in fraternal Korea is now carrying out such work with Korean fellow workers.

Trade between our two countries has successfully developed this year. The Soviet Union is exporting industrial raw materials and some goods, including oil, goods made of crude oil, coke, coking coal, mingane and chrome ores, alloy, and aluminium; and various machines and equipment to the DPRK. The DPRK is exporting magnesia clinker, cement, carbide, some of people's consumer goods, and agricultural raw materials to the Soviet Union.

These are some examples of the economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea. Undoubtedly this cooperation will expand and develop to increase the welfare of the peoples of our two countries.

RUSAKOV RECEIVES MONGOLIAN AMBASSADOR

LD150031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Rusakov today received Gurbadam, ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic to the Soviet Union, at the latter's request. They held a conversation that took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

ZIA TURNS FACTS 'UPSIDE DOWN' IN REMARKS ON DRA

LD141837 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valeriy Maksimov writes:

President Ziaul Haq, speaking in Karachi at the Institute of Domestic Problems, has asserted that Pakistan is striving for a political settlement in Afghanistan. He said that the Soviet Union is responsible for the situation that developed in Afghanistan. He even tried to convince the audience that Islamabad does not give assistance to counter-revolutionary Afghan forces. These are words, and how does Islamabad's striving for a political settlement look in deed?

The initiatives of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan aimed at normalizing the situation in the interests of all peoples of the region are broadly known. Babrak Karmal has repeatedly stated that "The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan stands for any negotiations with Pakistan, at any level at which goodwill will be demonstrated towards solution of contradictions." He (?repeatedly) expressed readiness "to discuss and settle all details, all disputable questions in direct negotiations." And Islamabad's answer was ever the same -- no direct negotiations with the Babrak Karmal government.

It was also repeatedly [words indistinct] presence of a limited contingent of Soviet troops in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is temporary. This is a forced action which was taken in reply to the armed intervention and other forms of interference from outside, specifically from Pakistan. When this interference ceases and firm international guarantees are given, the Soviet military contingent will return home.

As to Ziaul Haq's statement that Islamabad does not render assistance to counter-revolutionaries in their criminal actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, this statement is contrary to the generally known facts. (?Exactly from) Pakistan's territory there are more than 120 centers for training counterrevolutionary gangs. Counterrevolutionaries are trained not only by American but also by Pakistani specialists. Moreover, (?Pakistani) instructors even take part in these bandit groups' inroads into Afghanistan.

And are the sweeping punitive actions of Pakistani troops against Pashtun tribes not assistance to counterrevolutionaries? Killing Pashtuns, wrecking their homes, Islamabad "clears" routes for gangs of mercenaries to make their way into the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, creates conditions for them to prepare for new criminal acts. It is clear that by his assertions Ziaul Haq turned facts upside-down.

AFGHANISTAN LODGES UN PROTEST AGAINST PAKISTAN

LD152029 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 15 TASS -- The DRA Government has attracted the attention of the international community to Pakistan's and Iran's crude interference into the home affairs of Afghanistan.

As is pointed out in a letter from Mohammad Farid Zarif, DRA's permanent representative to the U.N., addressed to the U.N. secretary general, Pakistan's new hostile act was committed on February 5, when a Pakistani airforce jet plane invaded Afghanistan's air space.

The DRA Government condemns the provocative and irresponsible actions of the Pakistani armed forces, which are conducive to a deterioration of the situation in the region, and demands an immediate end to them, says the letter issued as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council.

Afghanistan's Government has also informed in its letter to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar about the subversive actions of the so-called "United Islamic Front" in Afghanistan, which was established with the participation of Iranian religious figures, Afghans resident in Iran and representatives of counter-revolutionary gangs. This activity boils down to instigation of the population to perpetrating acts of terrorism, and is nothing else but an open aggression against Afghanistan, says the letter. The DRA Government resolutely demands that the Iranian authorities take measures in order to put an end to all forms of aggression, interference and provocations against the Afghan people.

IRAN WARNED AGAINST SUPPORTING AFGHAN REBELS

NC151652 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Excerpts] Iranian officials organized a meeting at Tehran's Laleh Hotel last week involving a group of Afghan counterrevolutionaries, a number of domestic correspondents, and some so-called foreign Muslim activists. Those who took part slandered neighboring Democratic Afghanistan and made several accusations against it.

The people of this republic carried out a democratic and anti-feudal revolution 8 years ago. They have launched progressive reforms and are building a new life. As you know, in the course of land and water reform, property belonging to Afghan feudal lords who had fled to Iran and Pakistan was confiscated and turned over to hundreds of thousands of rural families free of charge.

None of this pleased those reactionary Afghans who are trying to bring feudal lords and usurers back to power in Afghanistan and to get a 31-billion afghani loan repaid. The April Revolution saved some 11 million Afghan workers from this loan.

Acting under various Islamic titles, Afghan reactionaries have created piratical organizations such as the Harakat-e Eslami-ye Afghanistan, Hezb-e Eslami-ye Afghanistan, and others. The imperialist governments, primarily, the United States, as well as regional reactionaries have been using Afghan counterrevolutionaries in their undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan for the past 8 years. Representatives of these brigands declared in their speeches at the Laleh Hotel that they would continue the war against Afghanistan.

Special camps have been set up in Mashhad, Zahedan, Tehran, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, and other Iranian cities for Afghans lured into Iran. Counterrevolutionaries go to these camps to organize subversive groups armed with weapons sent from the United States and other imperialist countries. CIA employees help to train these bands. This year Washington will send $470 million in arms to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. These bands, which are sent into Afghanistan from Pakistan and Iran, do great damage and harm to Afghan civilians.

According to partial data, the brigands have destroyed about 2,000 schools, 300 mosques, and more than 150 hospitals and clinics. They have killed hundreds of teachers and clergymen and have destroyed more than 900 agricultural cooperatives.

However, the imperialists and reactionaries cannot derail the Afghan revolution and destroy the historic gains of the Afghan people, who bravely stand up to foreign aggression. On the basis of a treaty of triendship signed between our two countries, the Soviet Union helps the Afghans in this struggle. Progressive forces throughout the world, namely Islamic countries such as Syria, the PDRY and Libya, are on the side of the Afghans.

Iranian officials and Afghan counterrevolutionaries who have found refuge in Iran will find it more and more difficult each year to use the afghans who have been lured into Iran as a weapon for aggression against Democratic Afghanistan. Thousands of Afghans went on a hunger strike in a Mashhad camp and announced that they would not cease their protest until they could go home. Iranian officials are trying to suppress the Afghans' protests by force. Revolutionary Guards, who play the role of jailers, recently raided a camp, killing three and wounding eight. Moreover, a large number of Afghans who want to return to their homeland are in Zahedan's central prison. Some of them were taken by force to Iran's deserts where they died of hunger and thirst.

The Iranian officials' intervention in Afghanistan's domestic affairs is becoming more and more blatant and overt. The Iranian press reported recently that a group of Iranian religious leaders and Afghan counterrevolutionaries entered Afghan territory illegally on the orders of Iran's high-ranking clergymen to set up a so-called United Islamic Front. The Afghan Government officially protested to Iranian officials and called on the Iranian leadership to stop intervention and acts of aggression and provocation against Afghanistan. The Iranian representative in Kabul was told that if these hostile acts do not end, the government of Democratic Afghanistan will have to take decisive steps to stop them.

The times require that immediate steps be taken in response to the unmistakable warning by neighboring, peace-loving, and Democratic Afghanistan.

DRA PEACE SOCIETY SUPPORTS SOVIET ARMS PROPOSALS

LD141336Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 14 TASS -- The January 15 statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev has once again clearly confirmed the immutability of the Soviet Union's position in respect of questions of strengthening peace in the whole world, stopping the arms race and the planet's militarisation and the total liquidation of all types of nuclear arms, it is said in the statement of the Organisation of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

In the international arena the Soviet Union invariably pursues a policy of the peaceful coexistence of states with differenc social systems, a policy of equal economic relations, of equal security for all, a policy directed at creating a peaceful and healthy atmosphere in inter-state relations, it is stressed in the statement. This was confirmed once again by the USSR's decision to unilaterally impose a moratorium on all nuclear explosions till December 31, 1985 that was then extended to another three months. But the United States is yet to respond positively to this step taken by the Soviet Union, it is noted in the statement of the Organisation of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship of the DRA.

The situation in the Asian continent remains troubled, it is said in the statement by the Organisation of Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship of the DRA. The danger of war comes from reactionary regimes, including the one in Pakistan, that are supported by American imperialism. The possible arming of the Pakistani Army with nuclear arms is especially alarming. For this reason the Organisation of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship together with other peaceable and progressive organisations in the world voices its support of the Soviet proposals to fully liquidate all stockpiles of nuclear and chemical weapons in the world by the end of this century, including of course, in Asia.

On behalf of the entire Afghan people the DRA Organisation of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship urges the United States to accept the Soviet peace proposals and thereby contribute to the cause of ridding mankind of the danger of nuclear war and of ensuring universal peace and security.

TRADE AGREEMENT FOR 1986-1990 SIGNED WITH DRA

PM171519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Text] On 13 February talks between government delegations of the USSR and the DRA ended in Moscow. An agreement on trade turnover in 1986-1990 and other documents regulating trade relations between the two countries during this period were signed.

The past 5-year period has been marked by a substantial increase in Soviet-Afghan trade, whose volume has tripled.

The documents that were signed create favorable prospects for the further development of Soviet-Afghan trade relations, which are based on the principle of equality and mutual advantage. Trade turnover between the USSR and the DRA is to increase by approximately 30 percent in 1986-1990.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of businesslike cooperation and comradely mutual understanding.

The documents were signed by B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade, and M.Kh. Jalalar, DRA minister of commerce.

The signing ceremony was attended by H. Mangal, DRA ambassador to the Soviet Union.

INDIAN TV CANCELS U.S. FILM ON INDIRA GANDHI

LD172346 Moscow TASS in English 2256 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] New Delhi, February 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent L. Kotov reports:

Indian television has cancelled the show of the documentary "The India of Rajiv" made to a script by U.S. journalist Jack Anderson. The newspaper NATIONAL HERALD close to government circles stresses that the film-makers included in it the sequences which cannot be interpreted otherwise than an attempt to hurt the national feelings of Indian people. Particular indignation here has been aroused by attacks on Indira Gandhi, the glorious daughter of the Indian people, former prime minister of India.

In an affront to her memory, U.S. movie dealers resorted to an overt juggling with facts, protraying in a tendentious light Indira Gandhi's policy of strengthening the sovereignty and security of the country.

"Anderson's film has become a typical example of poisonous propaganda which is unceasingly conducted in the West against our country", points out a message sent by Beli Ram Bhagat, Indian minister of external affairs, by Yashpal Kapoor, a prominent figure of the ruling INC (I) Party. The rabid campaign launched in the United States against the outstanding leader of India is indicative of the hostility which the ruling circles of the West entertain towards the Indian People and towards the republic's socio-economic accomplishments, he emphasises.

The way to Indian screens for Anderson's film has been barred in time. However, the country's public points out with concern that the film was widely shown on American television.

The local press stresses that films shown on Western screens quite often contain grossly distorted information on the state of affairs in the newly-independent states of Asia, Africa and Latin America and pass over in silence the just struggle of their peoples for full political and economic emancipation.

BRIEFS

LITERATURE EXCHANGE WITH INDIA -- New Delhi February 13 TASS -- The State Committee of the USSR for Book Publishing and the Department for Education at the Indian Ministry for the Development of Human Resources have signed a protocol here, which provides for a 20-volume collection of best works by Soviet writers to be issued in this country and a similar series of works by modern Indian authors to be put out in the Soviet Union in the current decade. The protocol also provides for studying the issue of publishing series of children's books in the USSR and India and translating their classics into languages of the peoples of the two countries as well as for holding book fairs and literary symposiums and seminars. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 13 Feb 86 ID]

PEACE COMMITTEE DELEGATION IN NEPAL -- Katmandu, 10 Feb (TASS) -- A visit to Nepal by a delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace led by deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet I.N. Klychev, at the invitation of the all-Nepal Peace Committee has been completed. A joint document on the results of the visit was signed, in which support was expressed for the new peaceful Soviet initiatives contained in the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary. The sides stated their solidarity with the fighting people of Afghanstan in the cause of defending the gains of the April Revolution, and decisively condemned the underhanded plotting of imperialism in the Near East and in Central America and also the apartheid regiem in the RSA. The representatives of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace and the all-Nepal Peace Committee spoke out in favor of the further expansion of bilateral links. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1302 GMT 10 Feb 86 LD]

TASS STATEMENT REJECTS U.S. ACTIONS IN PACIFIC

LD141645 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 14 Feb 86

["Micronesia -- TASS statement" -- TASS identifier]

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- The U.S. President recently signed a bill, earlier adopted by the American Congress, approving an agreement on "free association" between the United States of America and the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia in the Pacific. A similar agreement was imposed several years ago on the Mariana Islands. They in Washington hope that the same lot will soon befall the Palau Islands -- the last of the four vast insular territories known under the common name of Micronesia.

Thus, the process of the forced transformation by the United States of the islands actually into its neo-colonial possessions, protracted for four decades, is coming to an end. Washington is doing that at will, through domestic legislative acts, in evident violation of international law.

As is known, the United States received a temporary mandate to administer Micronesia as a U.N. trust territory from the U.N. Security Council in 1947. Instead of undertaking the efforts "to promote the political, economic, social, and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the trust territories, and their progressive development towards self-government or independence," as the Charter of the United Nations says, the United States has done everything to deny the Micronesian people independence, sovereignty and the possibility of self-determination.

Micronesia has been divided into separate parts in order to complicate united actions by the native population of the islands for their rights. The United States not only failed to promote the establishment of a viable economy on the islands. As a result, Micronesia's self-sufficiency is currently far lower than during the initial period of the trusteeship.

Disregarding its commitments, flouting the rights of the native population of the islands, the U.S.A. has over the past years been painstakingly turning the United Nations trust territory into a military place d'armes assigned the role of a rather important link in the chain of strategic military bases and strongholds of the Pentagon in the western part of the Pacific Ocean. It will not be superfluous to recall that U.S. planes that dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki took off the territory of Micronesia. Starting from 1946 the U.S. A. used the islands of Micronesia for testing nuclear weapons. At present Kwajalein Atoll is used by the Pentagon for intercontinental ballistic missile tests.

Thrusting on Micronesia the so-called "agreements on free association", the United States pursues the obvious aim -- to lay its hands on that Pacific territory and deprive Micronesians of independence for good. Under these "agreements" the U.S.A. appropriates an exclusive right of control over questions of external relations, defense, and finance of Micronesian territories. The Pentagon intends in the future, too, to retain and enlarge the proving grounds for rocketry testing, naval bases, airfields for strategic aviation and other military facilities established in the islands, to station nuclear, chemical and other types of mass annihilation weapons there. The transformation of that region into a strategic military place d'armes of the U.S.A. constitutes a serious threat not only to the people of Micronesia, but to the peoples of other countries in the Asian-Pacific region.

It is a fact that unilateral actions of the U.S.A. constitute an open challenge to the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

Its decision concerning the destiny of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and in the near future -- concerning the future of Palau, the American side is trying to push through the United Nations without the decision being endorsed by the Security Council. Meanwhile, the United Nations retains its responsibility for the destiny of Micronesia until that territory has exercised genuine self-determination. As it is clearly recorded in Article 83 of the Charter of the United Nations, any change in the status of a strategic trust area, which the Pacific Islands are under agreement between the Security Council and the United States of America, shall be made only by a decision of the Security council and, consequently, cannot be effected by the administering power.

The destiny of the people of Micronesia is a component part of the problem of decolonization, and it is the duty of the United Nations, all member-states of that organization to preclude an attempt to put the world before an accomplished fact of absorption of that territory by the United states. Moreover, one cannot fail to see that the annexationist plans with respect to Micronesia come as one of the manifestations of the imperial ambitions of the U.S.A., realization of the policy of "new globalism" in practice. If barriers are not put up today on the way toward a seizure of the Pacific islands, other countires and territories will become an oject of American expansion tomorrow.

The question about a trust territory, if the Charter of the United Nations is to be followed, should be solved in the Security Council. The United Nations organization should ensure the exercise by the people of Micronesia of the natural right to the establishment of a united independent state. A fitting rebuff should be given to the neocolonialist actions of the United States and to its arbitrariness with respect to a small people of the Pacific islands.

PHILIPPINE ASSEMBLY DECLARES MARCOS VICTOR

PM171615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Winner Announced"]

[Text] Manila, 15 Feb -- The Philippine National Assembly (parliament) today declared Ferdinand Marcos the winner of the 7 February presidential elections. According to the official results 1,515,000 more voters voted for him than for Corazon Aquino, the opposition's main presidential hopeful. A candidate from the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) coalition -- Arturo Tolentino -- was also elected vice president.

The results of the voting have been totaled up for all the country's 140 cities and provinces. KBL candidates were successful in 8 of the country's 13 economic and administrative regions. The fourfold voting advantage gained by F. Marcos and A. Tolentino in the provinces of northern Luzon Island -- traditionally considered the ruling coalition's stronghold -- compensated for their losses in a number of other regions, including the greater Manila region with a population of over 8 million.

The opposition headed by C. Aquino refused to recognize the official election results and announced its intention to hold mass protest demonstrations in the country tomorrow and start a nationwide "civil disobediance" campaign. The Catholic Church in the Philippines sided with the opposition.

They see the visit by the Washington emissary as falling within the framework of the U.S. Administration's incessant attempts to exploit the current unstable situation in the country in order to strengthen and expand its military-strategic position and its political and economic influence on the Philippines.

Cabinet Resigns

LD161856 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, February 16 TASS -- President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines addressed here today a press conference on the results of the presidential elections held on February 7. He said that he is a lawfully elected president and will act in accordance with the constitution. The president said that the whole cabinet resigned and also announced the resignation of General Fabian Ver as chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos will take over as acting chief of staff. He said that "important measures" in the economic field would be announced within the next few days. The head of state urged the population to observe calm and refrain from unrest.

Meanwhile Corazon Aquino, who was opposition candidate in the presidential elections, addressed a rally in Manila, urging her supporters to hold one-day protest strike on February 26, the next day after Marcos will be officially inaugurated president for the new term.

Philip Habib, U.S. special presidential envoy, who was sent to Manila on a "fact finding mission" after the elections, has started consultations. Tomorrow he is to meet with Marcos.

Increasing U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Philippines arouses mounting public indignation. An anti-American demonstration has been held outside the U.S. Embassy today.

HUSAK, ZHIVKOV PRAISES GORBACHEV ARMS PROPOSALS

Husak Statement

LD162204 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Prague, February 16 TASS - Prevention of a nuclear catastrophe, a peaceful resolution of all international issues are the dictates of the times, said Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, addressing the report and election party conference of the Prague party city organisation of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

In a number of areas of the world, the Czechoslovak leader continued, seats of military conflicts are smoldering. Mountains of mass destruction weapons have been accumulated in the world threatening to destroy human civilisation. That is precisely why, demonstrating a sense of responsibility for the planet's future, the Soviet Union has put forward a large-scale programme whose aim is to reduce and then totally eliminate nuclear weapons by the year of 2000. Yet, some circles in the USA are trying to use all sorts of pretexts to call these realistic proposals in question and evade giving a concrete answer to them.

They continue striving for universal domination, while the U.S. military-industrial complex is reluctant to give up the enormous profits from the arms race.

The Czechoslovak people is profoundly aware how deeply the questions of peace and war concern its vital interests. Therefore, it completly supports the Soviet peace initiatives. The tragic experience of our history and the price which has been paid for the country's freedom and independence are a reminder that it is only in alliance with the USSR and all countries of the socialist community that it is possible to ensure the peaceful development of Czechoslovakia, Gustav Husak said.

It can be said with gratification that the USSR's peaceful proposals meet with growing international support. There is growing conviction in the world of the need to resolve the international security issues on the basis of the principles proposed by the Soviet Union. This is a source of hope that it will be possible to divert the nuclear threat and ensure a peaceful future for mankind, Gustav Husak said in conclusion.

Zhivkov Statement

LD141521 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Sofia, February 14 TASS -- The real way to preventing the danger of a world nuclear conflagration is shown by the Soviet Union's programme for the total elimination up to the year 2000 of nuclear weapons and prohibition of space strike weapons, Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, said here.

The Bulgarian leader stressed that together with the fraternal countries of the socialist community, the People's Republic of Bulgaria is making its contribution to the struggle for putting an end to the arms race, for preventing its spreading into outer space, for general disarmament. In that connection he pointed out the need for turning the Balkans into a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons, which is favoured by the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

UNITY OF PORTUGUESE LEFT LED TO ELECTION VICTORY

PM171831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Valeriy Volkov "Commentator's Column": "Right-Wing Forces Rebuffed"]

[Text] Lisbon -- The second round of the presidential election has taken place in Portugal. It ended in victory for Mario Soares, former leader of the Socialist Party, who, according to preliminary figures, received 51 percent of the votes. For the first time in the last 60 years a civilian, rather than military politician has become the country's president.

The result of the voting, local commentators note, is not so much a victory for one candidate over the others. It is more a defeat for the right-wing forces grouped around D. Freitas do Amaral. "Reaction," the paper O DIARIO writes in a commentary, "has suffered its most crushing defeat since the victory of the 1974 April revolution." The paper notes that it is also a blow to the policy of the current Social Democratic government which "openly backed Freitas do Amaral and participated in the election campaign on his side."

The democratically minded strata of the populace, including people who traditionally vote for the Socialists and Communists, gave M. Soares victory at the election. As a result of the unity achieved in the struggle for the revolutionary gains of 25 April, and the political realism displayed by the majority of the population, the democratic forces' main task at the present stage -- the defeat of the rightists' stooge -- was carried out. Local political observers hope that this has halted the trend toward the right which has lately been characteristic of events in Portugal.

The local press notes that the election of M. Soares was due largely to the stance adopted by the Portuguese Communists during the election. He received maximum support in those areas where the Communist Party and its allies are traditionally strong. Without having any illusions about M. Soares' views and his policy of compromise with the conservatives, the Communists urged support for his candidacy in the second round of the election in order to block the candidate of the right-wing circles: The results of the voting show that the stance of the Portuguese Communist Party, its organization, and the democrats' unity of action played a decisive part in the outcome of the presidential election and in the defeat of reaction's plans.

The outcome of the election in Portugal shows that left-wing forces have some large and complex tasks to carry out in the immediate future. The Portuguese people's success in upholding the democratic gains of the 1974 April revolution will depend largely on the left-wing forces' unity.

SPAIN'S DILEMMA OVER NATO MEMBERSHIP VIEWED

LD180016 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1934 GMT 17 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpts] On 25 February, the official campaign in connection with the forthcoming nationwide referendum begins in Spain. The referendum itself is to be held on 12 March and concerns one of the most acute problems: Should the country be in the North Atlantic Alliance or not? This question naturally is a cause of concern to millions of Spaniards. The attitude to NATO has split Spain into two opposing camps: the supporters of the country's secession from the aggressive bloc and those wishing that it stay in NATO's ranks.

You may ask me, comrades, what is the correlation of forces between these two camps and who will be the winner in the forthcoming poll! Until recently, I, and, incidentally, not I alone, without thinking would have replied simply -- the Atlanticists are in the minority: They will lose to the forces opposing the country's staying within NATO who come out for a neutral Spain. This was confirmed by the results of numerous polls. Now, one must approach a reply to this question with greater caution. The likelihood of giving an accurate forecast has significantly lessened. What then is the matter, what has happened, and what has changed?

The position of the leading political force -- the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party which is in power, has changed. I was working in Madrid in 1982 at the height of the election campaign. At that time the Socialists were waging the struggle for places in Parliament, through loud slogans which attracted millions of citizens. If in the sphere of domestic policy, this was the promise to create 800,000 new jobs, in foreign policy it was an unconditional anti-NATO policy. In case of victory, the Socialists promised to quickly convene a plebiscite on the country's membership of the North Atlantic Alliance.

Only 3 and 1/2 years have passed and the party's position has changed most fundamentally. Now the Socialists are urgently calling on their supporters to say yes to staying in NATO, in the name of Spain's interests, as the party's official slogan now says. And naturally many Spaniards have begun to waver and doubt. They have also changed their convictions because they believe in the head of the leading party or because of party discipline, or else they must do not want to create an acute political situation in the country.

Felipe Gonzalez and members of his cabinet now refer to the changed situation. Now Spain has been accepted into the Common Market and henceforth must in all aspects adhere to the Western orientation and Western discipline. The fact that NATO guarantees the country's security and is assisting the modernization of the national armed forces is also mentioned. Other arguments are also set forth. The struggle between the two camps is nevertheless getting hotter. That is why it is not easy to predict the results of the referendum. Advocates of Spain's secession from the North Atlantic bloc -- including the Communists, members of the leading trade union confederation and working commissions -- do not cease their struggle even for a moment. It is not easy for them, as the state television and press clearly inclines to the government's point of view. Politicians both from Washington and from West European capitals are joining in the campaign, in the capacity of neutral observers.

Everyone can imagine what confusion would be caused in NATO's ranks by the decision of of the majority of the Spanish people to leave the aggressive bloc. NATO leaders are afraid even to think what kind of example may be given by the Spanish people to other peoples of Western Europe. Thus only 12 March itself will give a reply to the question concerning millions of Spanish people -- whether their motherland is or is not to be in NATO.

BONN PRESSURED TO ACCEPT NEW CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD082213 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 8 Feb 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Georgiy Alekseyev with correspondent Viktor Glazunov from Bonn]

[Text] As is well known, the Soviet disarmament program takes account of such a mass destruction weapon as chemical weapons. The task is being set to eliminate them in this century, and this aspect most immediately relates to the European continent.

The stockpiles of chemical means of waging war are enormous there, and to judge by the Pentagon's plans, will be supplemented, and moreover, primarily with the latest chemical weapons, including binary missiles. We have Bonn on the line now; I turn to our correspondent Victor Glazunov. It is thought the U.S. military's plans have generated a most acute situation within the FRG. Is that not so?

[Glazunov] Yes, that's correct. The chemical weapons issue directly relates to the FRG. The FRG took on an obligation in the fifties not to produce and not to have atomic, chemical, or bacteriological weapons. The paradox of the situation, however, is that the FRG is the country with the largest concentration of both atomic and chemical weapons in NATO. It is true they are U.S. weapons, but they are on the territory of the FRG with the knowledge and consent of that country's government. The FRG is a key country within the Pentagon's military strategic conception, which envisages inflicting thrusts into the full depth of the enemy's defensive formations with a whole complex of nuclear, chemical, and conventional weapons.

Experts believe that the whole of central Europe will be turned into a dead region in the event the chemical weapons stockpiled in the FRG are used. And now there is the question of binary weapons, and again the Americans are faced with the question of where to put them. Naturally the Pentagon has a scenario for both atomic and chemical war in Europe. Here the eyes of those in the Pentagon are again turned towards the FRG. They are, it is true, currently giving assurances, both over the ocean and on the Rhine, that the United States has no intention for the moment of siting binary missiles outside the United States. For the moment. And in this regard the following is curious and very significant: The Social Democrats have put a draft resolution before the Bundestag on preventing the siting of binary weapons on FRG territory. This draft was rejected by the government parties. Why, one asks? Because it already has been decided in the Pentagon where and when binary missiles should be put -- in the FRG, as close as possible to the defensive formations of the Warsaw Pact countries, as it is customary to say in the Pentagon's language. And in Bonn, they agree with this by all accounts. If not, then why decline proposals for preventing the siting of binary weapons on FRG territory?

[Alekseyev] Viktor Mikhailovich, as is well known, the GDR and Czechoslovak Governments recently proposed to the FRG Government that they begin talks on the creation of a chemical weapons-free zone in the center of Europe. What was Bonn officialdom's attitude to this?

[Glazunov] Well, Bonn officialdom took a negative attitude to this, on the pretext that they prefer a global settlement. Naturally a global settlement is good, but they in Bonn know where the key to a global settlement lies; namely, in Washington. It is Washington which has been sabotaging the conclusion of a convention on a total ban and elimination of chemical weapons for many years. Such an interim regional measure as the creation of a chemical-free zone in central Europe will be useful in these conditions. It will be simpler to implement it. This also will create favorable conditions for a global solution to the problem, and will remove the risk of chemical war in Europe. Bonn is clearly hiding behind the back of Washington. Clearly the Social Democrats, who speak of Bonn's vassal dependence on Washington, which does not allow Bonn to take a single independent step even if such a step is in the FRG's national interests, are correct.

SPD, SED DISCUSS NUCLEAR ISSUES IN BONN

LD161518 Moscow TASS in English 1216 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Bonn, February 16 TASS -- Hermann Axen, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, SUPG, secretary of the Central Committee of the SUPG, and Egon Bahr, member of the Presidium of the Board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, SPD, spoke highly of the Soviet peace initiatives as a press conference in Bonn on Saturday. The press conference dealt with the results of two-day talks of the SUPG and SDP joint working group on creating in central Europe a zone free from battlefied nuclear weapons.

Due to the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva and the Soviet-proposed programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons the group had worked in more favourable conditions this time, Herman Axen stressed. The group thoroughly discussed the plan for the elimination of all types of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 and concluded that it gave a new powerful impulse to the movement for arms limitation and for disarmament.

People of the two German states and people throughout Europe would be relieved of the nightmare looming over then, if nuclear weapons could be eliminated in places of their highest concentration. "I welcome the Soviet initiatives because they for the first time contain the concept of eliminating all types of nuclear weapons, including tactical ones," Egon Bahr said.

The members of the working group stressed it was exceptionaly important that an agreement on a complete ban on nuclear tests be signed as soon as possible and that the treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems by strictly observed.

ANTONOV TRIAL ENDING; WESTERN BACKING RECALLED

LD152240 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Commentary by Yu. Kostov; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Legal proceedings concerning the case of the assassination attempts on the life of Pope John Paul II are drawing to a close in Rome. The case of Sergei Antonov: this is the way the Western press usually refers to this trial.

The year of 1981: the United States is imposing a new round of the arms race on the world. The struggle with the terrorism of Moscow, a crusade against communism. Such were Washington's slogans, which were deliberately exacerbating the situation surrounding Poland. And it was not surprising that the Western special services needed countries of socialism to stand behind the assassination attempt on the life of the head of the Roman Catholic Church, a Pole by origin. Suddenly, but in a coordinated way, the Western press stated talking about Bulgrain terrorists. Then Agca, who had been in jail for more than 1 year already, recalled his Bulgarian accomplices, recalled after being visited by the Italian special services in his prison. Sergei Antonov, official of the Bulgarian airlines in Rome, was arrested.

SHEVARDNADZE, IRAQ'S TARIQ 'AZIZ DISCUSS GULF WAR

LD171822 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze had a conversation today with member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Iraqi Republic Tariq 'Aziz, who had arrived in Moscow on instruction of the "Committee of Seven" set up by the League of Arab countries in 1984 with the aim of helping to bring about an end to the war between Iran and Iraq.

Tariq 'Aziz informed Eduard Shevardnadze of the evaluations by the "Committee of Seven" of the dangerous situation that is taking shape in connection with the new offensive by Iranian troops and also the forthcoming study of this question in the United Nations Security Council that is to be convened on the request of the group of Arab countries.

Eduard Shevardnadze confirmed the Soviet Union's consistent line towards an earliest termination of the conflict and towards a settlement of the contentious issues existing between the sides by political means, at the negotiating table. Conviction was expressed that continuation of the Iranian-Iraqi war results only in heavy casualties and destruction for the peoples of the two countries. In this connection the Soviet side expressed concern over the growing scope of military operations, which is fraught with negative consequences for the cause of peace and stability in the entire region.

It was emphasized that bringing the conflict into the channel of peaceful solutions without delays in accordance with the generally recognized norms would meet the interests not only of the countries participating in the conflict but also, on a broader plane, the goals of ensuring international security. The imperialist forces, which are interested in a further heightening of tension in the region, should not be allowed to make use of the dragging out of the conflict.

Guided by such approach, the Soviet Union will continue to support all efforts which are being made in the direction of a peaceful settlement of the conflict, including that within the framework of the United Nations Organization and the U.N. Security Council.

Some matters of bilateral Soviet-Iraqi relations were also discussed during the conversation. On the same day Tariq 'Aziz left by air for New York to attend the U.N. Security Council's meeting.

PRESS CONFERENCE ADDRESSES MIDEAST ISSUES

LD141754 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Excerpts] A press conference was held on 13 February at the press center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Valeriy Sukhin, the spokesman for the press department of the Foreign Ministry, answered a number of questions put by Soviet and foreign reporters.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq dispute, Valeriy Sukhin declared in particular that the Soviet attitude toward this war, which has been going on for many years, is known full well.

We regard it not just as a bloody tragedy, but also as extremely senseless, since it uses huge resources which Iran and Iraq could use equally for peaceful creative development, consolidating their economic independence, and ensuring a better future for their two peoples. It is very saddening that the war has resulted in the death of many ' thousands of people. We untiringly call for putting an end to the war; the sooner this takes place the better it will be for all. That is our stance, which the two warring countries and the world public opinion know full well.

In reply to a question about the nature of Soviet-Iraqi relations, the USSR foreign ministry spokesman declared: We have a treaty of friendship and cooperation with Iraq, which is the firm foundation of our bilateral relations and cooperation in various fields. The two sides have frequently declared, including during the recent visit by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to the Soviet Union, their satisfaction with the state and scope of the development of Soviet-Iraqi relations on the firm basis of this treaty. The Soviet Union is implementing and will continue to implement its commitments connected with this treaty.

A number of questions put to Valeriy Sukhin dealt with the Soviet Union's relations with the countries of the Arabian Gulf. In reply to these questions Sukhin said the following: We have established diplomatic relations with Oman and diplomatic relations between our country and the UAE [United Arab Emirates] have existed since 1971, when that state was founded. Agreement has now been reached to exchange diplomatic missions at the level of embassies. The 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia will fall on 16 February. The Soviet side is prepared for the establishment of diplomatic relations between us -- not just formally, but also practically -- and says that there should be a Soviet embassy in Saudi Arabia and a Saudi Embassy in the Soviet Union. There are many opportunities for Soviet-Saudi relations to develop. The Soviet people congratulate the people of Saudi Arabia on the 60th anniversary of Soviet-Saudi diplomatic relations and express the hope that our relations will develop in the interest of the peoples of the two states.

PDRY LEADER DENIES CLAIMS OF SOVIET INTERFERENCE

LD162128 Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, February 16 TASS -- The United States and its allies actively interfered in the January events in Democratic Yemen, trying to use the conflict to their ends, said Salim Salih Muhammad, deputy general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-IYASAH. We have trustworthy information to the effect that representatives of a number of foreign states took part in planning and engineering the plot, instigated unrest in the country and financed the forces hostile to the progressive regime. Along with that U.S. propaganda was trying to provide a cover for Washington's sordid role in South Yemeni events, spread slanderous fabrications about some "Soviet interference" in the PDRY's [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] affairs. In this connection I would like to note once again, he said, that the Soviet Union strictly adheres to the policy of non-interference in Democratic Yemen's internal affairs. By this policy the USSR jointly with the PDRY contributes to preventing foreign intervention in the region. Characterising the policy of the new leadership of Democratic Yemen, S.S. Muhammad stressed that it remains invariable. We will make everything in our power to preserve good relations with our neighbours along the principles of non-interference in each other's home affairs. Any tensions in relations between states serve no useful purpose either as regards the interests of their peoples or stability and security of the whole region, but only plays into the hand of Zionism and U.S. imperialism, said the deputy general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON FIGHTING IN CHAD

French 'Military Interference'

LD161537 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 16 TASS -- France has resumed a direct military interference in the internal affairs in Chad. The Ministry of Defence has announced here that today aircraft of the French Air Force delivered a bombing strike at an airfield of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU) at Ouadi Doum in the north of that African country. The raid was made shortly after President Mitterrand's consultations in Paris with Defence Minister Paul Quiles who had made an inspection tour to Chad. Over there, the defence minister had met with the leader of the Ndjamena regime who requested the sending of new French military contingents to Chad.

U.S. Preparing 'Armed Interference'

PM151838 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[TASS report under general heading "Situation Heating Up; Events in Chad"]

[Text] Washington, 15 Feb TASS -- The United States is preparing for active armed interference in Chad's affairs. Washington is maintaining constant contacts with the Paris and Ndjamena authorities, a U.S. State Department spokesman admitted here. He stressed that Washington is examining the question of "expediting the granting of military assistance to the pro-Western Habre government."

French 'Interventionist Corps'

LD171857 Moscow TASS in English 1542 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 17 TASS -- France is rushing its "containment forces," an interventionist corps, to Chad, according to French Defense Minister Paul Quiles. He said warplanes of the French Air Force will be landing in Ndjamena within the next few hours and will be based there on a permanent footing.

Dialogue Sought

LD170029 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, February 16 TASS -- Libya favours an immediate end to hostilities in Chad, the JANA news agency said today. The resumption of fighting in Chad undermines the efforts of the African states for a peaceful settlement of the situation in the country, the commentary said.

As Beassoumal Nadjita,economics and finance minister of the Transitional National Unity Government said, the forces of his government had beaten back an attack of Ndjamena troops north of Oum Chalouba city and then launched a counter-offensive. He exposed the statements by a spokesmen for the Habre regime that it had allegedly "restored control" over that city and its outskirts. Such statements, the minister pointed out, has repeatedly expressed readiness for talks on national reconciliation. To this end Acheik Oumar, minister of state -- coordinator of the transitional government has been recently sent to Paris. He demanded that the French Government pressurise the Habre regime into agreeing to a dialogue.

If Habre does not agree to peace talks, the troops of the Transitional National Unity Government will carry on combat operations, Beassoumal Nadjita stressed.

Events Described

PM161710 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS, PRAVDA own correspondents report under the general heading "Direct Military Interference"]

[Text] Paris, 16 Feb TASS -- France has resumed direct military interference in the internal conflict in Chad. As the Defense Ministry here has announced, French Air Force aircraft today bombed the airfield of the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) forces in Ouadi Doum in the north of the country.

Tripoli, 16 Feb TASS -- France has begun shipping military hardware including heavy artillery, machine guns, and armored personnel carriers to Ndjamena, the JANA news agency reports. In addition, the first detachment of French military servicemen has arrived in Chad.

GUNT forces repulsed an attack by Ndjamena's troops in a region north of the city of Oum Chalouba and then went onto the counteroffensive, (Beassumal Nadzhita), GUNT minister of economics and finance, has indicated here. He refuted statements by representatives of the Habre regime that they had "restored control" over that city and surrounding areas.

Paris, 16 Feb TASS -- The French Air Force's bombing of an airfield in northern Chad is unjustified, (Abderakhman Musa), GUNT's official representative in France, told AFP today. He rejected reports that Libyans are fighting alongside GUNT units.

Paris, 16 Feb (PRAVDA own correspondent M. Shchedrov) -- The mass media continue to create a fuss "around the events in Chad." Maps are being shown on television depicting the former French colony which is now an independent African state. Those maps invariably show the red line drawn 3 years ago by what a political observer has called "Paris' imperial neocolonial hand," a line dividing the country from west to east. According to a Paris statement, the crossing of this line by the opponents of the Ndjamena regime is regarded as an "impermissible act." Rumors of "Libyan interference" are again rife. Television, radio, and a number of newspapers report that the sharp buildup of military aid to the Ndjamena regime was followed by Paris' declaration of a state of combat readiness for the subunits and combat divisions of the French Air Force stationed at military bases in the Central African Republic and Gabon.

A "French air bridge" has again been established with Ndjamena, as happened some years ago during the neocolonial operation Manta. According to newspapers, citing confidential sources, the French Air Force's first bombing of the airfield in northern Chad may be followed by "more resolute actions." In this atmosphere a number of representatives of the right-wing French opposition and also of the ruling Socialist Party are openly urging the president to show "firmness" and loyalty to "treaties."

Algiers, 16 Feb (PRAVDA own correspondent S. Filatov) -- Algeria believes that everything must be done to end the fratricidal clashes in Chad and those who are mediating on Africa's behalf in the settlement of the problem must be allowed to carry out their mandate unhindered, an Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement published here says. The resumption of military actions in Chad is contrary to all the efforts being made in Africa to achieve national reconciliation in that country and protect it from foreign interference.

Algeria confirms its firm commitment to the plan for settling the Chad problem adopted at the 19th OAU session, the statement points out.

'Explosive Situation ' Results

LD171905 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 17 TASS -- An explosive situation has developed in the centre of Africa as a result of France's growing armed intervention in Chad. As is reported by the FRANCE PRESSE news agency from Ndjamena, French warplanes are arriving uninterruptedly at the airport of the capital of Chad from the Central African Republic, Gabon and Cameroon. Troops, rocketry, artillery are being brought by an "air bridge" from France. More than 200 crack commandos have already been airlifted. No less than 1,300 troops and a squadron of fighter planes are expected to arrive in Chad in the near future.

The Transitional National Unity Government of Chad has denounced the "in-depth bombing of the Quadi Doum district by French aviation", runs a communique of the Transitional Unity Government. The actions of France which asserts that it allegedly has its rights to Chad are in line with the course of Paris, aimed at internationalization of the internal conflict in Chad and are a gross violation of the peoples' right to self-determination. The Transitional National Unity Government has reaffirmed the "readiness to positively respond to any proposals on a peace solution of Chad problems".

A representative of the Transitional National Unity Government in France has called upon the African governments to prevent their airports from being used by French military aviation which subject civilian population of Chad to bombing.

It is noted here that the intervention in Chad is a preplanned action. Invasion forces were amassed beforehand in the Central African Republic, stressed the newspaper LE MONDE. The French troops were airlifted to Chad at a time when a composite squadron of the U.S. Sixth Fleet is conducting provocative exercises off Libya's shores and when the U.S. Administration is building up the campaign of blackmail and threats against Libyan Jamahiriyah.

France ought to promote settlement of the situation in Chad through negotiations, but should not pour oil into the flames, said member of the Political Bureau of the French Communist Party Roland Leroy, speaking by the Radio France-Haute Normandie. Our country should not start a venture of a neocolonialist character, he said. The internal problems of Chad should be settled by the people of Chad themselves.

Interference Benefits U.S.

LD172007 Moscow TASS in English 1957 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS -- TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

Commenting on the alarming development of events in Chad, many foreign policy observers agree that France has decided to a new armed intervention in that country by far, not just to remind of its role of a defender of the West's interests in Africa. At the time when the 6th Fleet of the United States is engaged in provocative maneouvres off the shores of Libya in the north and Washington's threatens Tripoli with all sorts of punishment, the creation of an additional seat of tension, this time near the Jamahiriyah's southern borders, obviously will be appreciated in the White House.

The ever more discernible anti-Libyan accent which Paris wishes to impart to the intrusion in Chad, the contentions that French troops are being sent into that country in response to "Libyan activity" in border areas indicate that blackmail and threats against Tripoli are not the lowest priorities action in the sub-Saharan desert.

Materials appearing in the press point to the coordination of French and American actions in the preparation of this action. As it was admitted by the Paris JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE, French military specialists dealing with Chad had access to the latest intelligence information on that country supplied by American spy satellites. It was already after the present deterioration of events that Washington hastened with assurances that it will speed up the granting of six million dollars' worth of military aid to the pro-Western regime in Ndjamena in addition to the French military programme.

The Washington administration remembers that the first French intervention in Chad in 1983 had brought about a growth of American influence in that country, the appearance there of several hundred American military advisers and the construction of a United States military base in the south of Chad. So it wants to use the present situation as well to expand its military presence in that region.

It is obvious that such a development of events will not solve the internal conflict in Chad and will not boost the prestige of Habre's puppet regime that is encountering the population's growing resistance to its dictatorial methods and attempts to stifle the opposition by means of terror. Instead of sending troops and guns to Chad while simultaneously trying to prove its questionable rights to interfere in the internal affairs a former colony France should have supported the search for a peaceful settlement of the Chadian conflict undertaken by the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

It is exactly this road of solving the problem that is being seen by the countries that neighbour on Chad and whose interests are directly linked with the normalisation of the situation in that state. Libya's official news agency JANA has categorically refuted the charges of the Ndjamena regime about Libya's "participation" in combat operations in Chad and its striving to "seize" that country. Libya intends further to observe its commitments not to interfere in the internal conflict in Chad.

The Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU) has also repeatedly declared for a peaceful solution of the Chadian problem. The government's minister-coordinating Acheikh Ibn Oumar was recently sent to Paris with this aim and urged the French Government to put pressure on Habre so that he would enter the dialogue.

The neocolonialist intervention in Chad came as a reply to this call for national reconciliation...

'Dual Objective' Pursued

PM171749 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Nikanorov "International Commentary": "Yet Another Intervention"]

[Text] Paris did not take long to ponder over the H. Habre regime's request to reintroduce its troops into Chad. And so, for the second time in less than 3 years, France is again engaged in armed intervention against its former colony.

The first operation, codenamed "Manta" and launched in August 1983, did not result in any great glory for Paris.

Even at that time there was talk in the French capital that much greater dividends were earned by Washington from that adventure, which opened the door for expansion of its own presence in this important strategic zone in Africa. The years since then have confirmed the correctness of this assessment. Several hundred U.S. military advisers are now settled in Chad and, according to official spokesman of the National Unity Transition Government, are participating directly in combat actions. The volume of U.S. arms deliveries, including tanks and rockets, has grown steadily. The army of Habre, who was put in power by the efforts of Western special services, is actively mastering the new equipment in Kanem Prefecture, in the west of the country, under the leadership of Pentagon instructors. A U.S. military base is being created in southern Chad.

During this same period the Ndjamena regime, "saved" by Western patrons, has shown its real face. Even the Paris newspaper LE FIGARO, which can hardly be suspected of being sympathetic with the national liberation movement, wrote that "Habre's soldiers behaved like an occupying force, resorting to all kinds of repressions." Today the punitive actions have become even more cruel. Nonetheless, opposition to the "local occupiers" is growing.

The present "pacification" operation, just like "Manta," has been launched on the basis of unfounded claims by Ndjamena, Paris, and Washington about some kind of Libyan complicity in the exacerbation of the situation in Chad. All this is happening at a time when the U.S. 6th Fleet is conducting provocative maneuvers right next to the Libyan coast. The organizers of crude interference in other people's affairs display no end of cynicism. A dual objective is being pursued behind the smokescreen of noisy propaganda: To keep their protege in Ndjamena and simultaneously, to step up the campaign of blackmail and threats against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

This is fully in line with Washington's concept of "neoglobalism" which is, in effect, the same old hegemonist policy of U.S. imperialism in new packaging. As far as France is concerned, its armed intervention directly furthers the implementation of the transatlantic partner's schemes.

SWAPO LEADER CITED ON NAMIBIA TALKS, SAVIMBI

LD152038 Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam, February 15 TASS -- The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) and its military wing -- the People's Liberation Army of Namibia will step up the armed struggle against the South African occupiers until ultimate victory is won, said Sam Nujoma, SWAPO president, addressing newsmen here. The linkage put forward by the USA for the resolution of the problem of granting independence to Namibia with the question of withdrawal of Cuban internationalists from Angola serves in real fact towards blocking Resolutions 435 of the Security Council, Sam Nujoma stressed. The SWAPO president described as Washington's fresh "deceptive manoeuvre" the secret meeting in Geneva between Chester Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, and Roelof Botha, South African foreign minister. The aim of these meetings, the SWAPO president said, is to deceive international public.

Touching upon the meeting of U.S. President Reagan with Savimbi, chief of the UNITA gangs, Sam Nujoma pointed out that these actions of the U.S. Administration are added proof of the fact that the White House further intends to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign African states. The reception accorded to Savimbi, Sam Nujoma said, is graphic evidence of Washington's readiness to broaden support for its puppets.

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CHERVOV DISCUSSES MORATORIUM IN INTERVIEW

DW181437 East Berlin Television Service in German 1945 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Interview with Colonel General Nikolay Chervov by correspondent Klaus (Hippert) on the "Objektiv" program; answers in Russian with superimposed German translation; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Chervov] The absolute majority of all states, the people of the world, governments, and political parties assess CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's initiative on a whole as positive, especially his nuclear disarmament program -- the liquidation of nuclear weapons on earth by the year 2000. It is stressed in comment that this program is not an utopia, not a fantasy, but a real program. The realism of this program is characterized by the fact that it is concrete, that it is to be implemented in phases, that it sets dates, deadlines, and an order for things, and that it points out ways in which nuclear armaments can be liquidated. In addition, the idea is being stressed that the Soviet Union and the United States have a certain experience of how weapons can be liquidated through common agreements. Also, both have the methods to practically destroy weapons. Therefore, the measures suggested by Mikhail Gorbachev are being considered really practicable; even more so, because the Soviet Union proposes to implement all these measures under strong national and international control and on site.

We wait for an answer from the U.S. Administration, we wait for an official answer. Much time has already passed and although the U.S. Administration states that it continues the studies and continues consultations with its allies, it is, nevertheless, time for an answer. The Soviet leadership and the leadership of the other socialist countries are fully aware of the fact that the destruction of nuclear weapons on earth is not an easy problem. At the same time, however, the leaders of socialist countries know that it must be done now. Today we stand at a threshold where it can be too late tomorrow, because the arms race today is already overtaking the negotiations. As you have certainly noted, Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, therefore, clearly says that one must act today, immediately. Nobody can stand aside in the fight against the threat of a nuclear war.

[Hippert] As is known, the Soviet Union has demonstrated and stressed its will for peace with this initiative, but also supported it with unilateral concessions made in advance. I have in mind the test moratorium that was extended for another 3 months.

[Chervov] In short, the significance of this moratorium consists of the fact that the discontinuation of nuclear weapons tests will lead to the antiguation of nuclear weaponry because the moratorium stops the qualitative development of nuclear weapons, their carrier means and warheads. Nuclear weaponry will not be further modernized, which is a great step toward the beginning of the destruction of nuclear weapons as a whole. The U.S. side understands that very well. If the moratorium will be adhered to, there will be no new kinds of nuclear ammunition, including laser weapons which the U.S. side wants to deploy in space with the help of nuclear explosions. This shows the enormous importance of the moratorium and, therefore, the Soviet Union asks the U.S. side to follow suit.

'NO LINKAGE' EXISTS BETWEEN INF, SDI STANCES

PM181445 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 13 Feb 86 p 14

[Anders Mellbourn report: "Continued Moratorium"]

[Text] The Soviet Union will probably not resume its nuclear tests before the next summit between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan.

This emerged yesterday when a high-ranking delegation of experts from Moscow arrived in Stockholm to explain Gorbachev's disarmament initiative.

The Soviet Embassy's movie theater was filled with everyone from peace activists to generals as well as journalists for the 2 hours during which the delegation from Moscow answered questions. The visit to Stockholm is part of the more open information policy which the new Soviet leadership is trying to introduce.

"The new Soviet disarmament initiative is a development and a continuation of what Mikhail Gorbachev put forward at the Geneva summit last fall, delegation head Albert Vlasov, CPSU Central Committee International Information Department sector chief, said. The remarkable thing is Geneva was that both the Soviet and the U.S. leaders jointly declared that a nuclear war must never be allowed to break out and that no one could win such a war.

Gorbachev's statement of 15 January this year outlined the goal that all nuclear arms be abolished by the year 2000. It also contains quite detailed proposals for different phases of disarmament which deviate to some extent from past Soviet stances.

It is true that the Soviet Union's forceful criticism of the U.S. space defense plans remains. But space defenses no longer stand in the way of all the other disarmament talks between the two superpowers. "There is no linkage whatsoever between medium-range nuclear arms in Europe and space defenses," said economic historian Oleg Bykov, who provided the more detailed security policy commentary.

The Soviet Union wants to discuss space defenses in connection with strategic nuclear disarmament. The conditions for negotiations on the controversial medium-range nuclear arms in Europe are simply that the United States undertake not to export such weapons to third countries and that the two other nuclear powers in Europe, Britain and France, do not increase the numbers of nuclear arms in their possession.

The Soviet delegation was happy about the positive reception which Gorbachev's proposals have received so far. Nothing critical was said about the United States; Albert Vlasov simply stressed that the United States has until the end of March to make its official reactions public.

By April the Soviet Union would also like to know how far the United States is prepared to support the nuclear test moratorium which the Soviet Union has been observing unilaterally since last fall. But from Vlasov's line of argument it was clear that the Soviet Union -- regardless of what the U.S. response will be -- is hardly likely to begin testing any nuclear arms before the next summit between Reagan and Gorbachev which will probably take place in Washington in June or July.

U.S. CONSIDERS VARIED RESPONSES TO SOVIET PROPOSAL

LD170025 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Feb 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] Hello, comrades. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement, containing a 15-year plan for the elimination of nuclear armaments in stages, was announced exactly 1 month ago. Mikhail Sergeyevich addressed all peoples, all governments, but all the same, the main addressee was, understandably, the United States of America. Precisely this main addressee, has not yet replied to the Soviet proposals.

The general feeling in Washington at the beginning of the year was more or less that because the 27th CPSU Congress is approaching, it is improbable that any major foreign policy ideas will be formed in Moscow.

However, it turned out otherwise and the Soviet initiative itself, writes Ian Davidson in THE FINANCIAL TIMES, was totally unexpected both in terms of scale and timing. This has clearly stunned the entire West. Silence and incomprehensible utterances provide evidence for this. The twaddlers in strategic circles are clearly speechless. This was truly unexpected for them and the U.S. papers now report that three different versions, three different approaches to Soviet proposals, three different ways of answering them are competing against one another.

Here is Weinberger's version, that is, the Pentagon's: The Soviet proposals are sheer propaganda and enerally speaking, there is practically nothing in the U.S. position that need be altered in connection with them. And there is Adelman's version, that of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. On the whole, to give a positive answer on the issue of Euromissiles, proposes Adelman, it is necessary to suggest that the Soviet Union reduce by another 50 percent its SS-20's in Asia. And then there is Shultz from the State Department. On the whole, he agrees with Adelman and adds that it would be possible for both sides to confirm adherence to the ABM Treaty. So, these are the three versions. The selection, however, has not yet been made. The arguments are going on and on in the meantime.

Special presidential and secretary of state aides on the issues of disarmament Paul Nitze and Edward Rowny have been sent to Western Europe and Asia to consult with allies and friends; both are well-known U.S. political figures. Formally, they are having consultations on how to respond to Soviet proposals. But in essence, they have repeatedly been defending the U.S. stance, which rigidly insists on continuation of the "star wars" program. This was what Rowny was hawking around Australia and China, where, in my opinion, he was not very warmly received. He was, of course, in Japan, also.

NEGATIVE U.S. STANCE ON TESTING CAUSES CONCERN

LD170037 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 16 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The public opinion poll conducted in the United States by the newspaper WASHINGTON POST jointly with the ABC Television network has shown that 74 per cent of the Americans support the U.S.S.R.'s proposals on the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. Although the Pentagon hawks are at pains to intimidate the Americans with inventions about the non-existent "Soviet menace", realization grows among millions of U.S. citizens that time has come when it is necessary that the process of intensified material preparations for war should be stopped and reversed, and the threat of nulcear catastrophe overhanging mankind be removed. A ban on the tests of overkill nuclear weapons would be the first practical step towards this goal.

Back last year, the Soviet Union came up with a major and genuinely constructive initiative. It terminated unilaterally all nuclear tests and called on the United States to join in this action. On January 15, 1986, the U.S.S.R. announced that it extends the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear blasts by three months. It is clear that for our country to take such a decision was not a simple, an easy matter. The Soviet Union cannot display unilateral restraint with regard to nuclear tests ad infinitum. But the stakes are too high and the responsibility too great for us not to take every opportunity to influence the position of others through the force for example.

Keeping widely discussing and commenting on this step of good will by Moscow, prominent politicians and public figures in various countries and the press underline again and again that the importance of this action is truly hard to overestimate. For to terminate the nuclear tests means to put an end to perfection of nuclear arms, block the ways and opportunities for developing new and new types and varieties of weapons of destruction and death.

Nevertheless, Washington, at least until today, stubbornly refuses to follow the Soviet example and introduce a moratorium on nuclear blasts. Advocates of the arms race resort to all sorts of unseemly methods in their attempts to camouflage their true goals and whitewash their militarist stand. Now they set afloat a totally groundless version on certain "verification difficulties" which allegedly hamper a nuclear test ban.

Now they cite statements by Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defence secretary, and his likes and talk at length to the effect that the Soviet proposal on the moratorium is allegedly unacceptable since the U.S.S.R. has conducted more explosions at the present stage than the United States. In so doing, they overlook the fact that according to figures released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the United States set off 772 nuclear explosions by early 1985 while the U.S.S.R. -- 556, and within the period when the Soviet moratorium has been in effect the gap has widened still more in favour of the United States...

In reality, the matter is, certainly, not in the imaginary difficulties involved in verification and as imaginary U.S. lag but rather in the fact that certain quarters in the United States would like to continue with reliance on force in politics and intend to add new and new types of weapons to militarist arsenals, including and primarily within the framework of the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative".

Senator Edward Kennedy wrote in THE WASHINGTON POST that "it is now possible to outline a series of far-reaching agreements which, with sufficient political will on the part of both sides, can be achieved in the next few years". As for the Soviet Union, its display of political will to detente and to curbing the arms race is at hand and the extension of the moratorium on all nuclear explosions is conclusive evidence of this. Will Washington display this will in action? The U.S. negative stand on such a crucial issue as a ban on nuclear tests regrettably prompts the thought that someone in the United States would obviously like to replace concrete steps on disarmament with rhetoric on the "need of arms control". This cannot fail to spark serious concern among both Soviet and international public...

WEST CONTINUES TO POSTPONE RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL

LD141407 Moscow World Service in English 0710 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Spartak Beglov commentary]

[Text] President Reagan's State of the Union message is the first major political pronouncement by a Western leader following General Secretary Gorbachev's statement of 15 January in which he offered a bold 15 year plan for scrapping nuclear weapons plus other disarmament measures. Mr Reagan's message gave not the slightest hint as to America's official reaction to the plan. This is what Spartak Beglov of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY writes about it:

This is surprising, to say the least, in view of the widespread public support for the Soviet proposals. The Soviet nuclear disarmament plan obviously took the governments of the West by surprise.

And this time they cannot shrug it off as another Soviet propaganda ploy because in the eyes of millions of concerned people, it looks a very real thing. The Soviet plan presents a definite schedule for eliminating nuclear weapons with careful and balanced provisions for the security interests of other nuclear states and for fully controlling the disarmament process.

So why the prolonged silence on the part of NATO country governments? If one assumes that the main reason for this silence is the need for a careful study and exchange of views within the Western alliance, then it may be a good omen. But, unfortunately, the indications are just the opposite, namely that this delay is meant to give the vested interests a chance to fill the vacuum in the Western position with all sorts of artificial objections against a radical solution of the disarmament issue. It's an old tactic to prevent a sound disarmament idea from being realized by presenting the public with an accomplished fact. This is exactly what the Pentagon chief is doing when he claims that his military machine can't afford to go on without further nuclear tests. This is exactly what Mr Reagan is doing when in his State of the Union message he insists on creating a security shield, which is a codename for the "star wars" project. He actually wants us to believe that spending billions of dollars on a highly explosive astrocupola can one day render nuclear weapons obsolete.

There's a much safer, cheaper, and shorter way to achieve that: Start getting rid of nuclear weapons now and that is what the Soviet plan means to achieve before we enter the next century. Soviet readiness to start the realization of this most profound aspiration of humanity is evident, while the West still has to give a clear-cut answer.

JOINT SDI TALKS SEEK TO DEEPEN BRITISH INVOLVEMENT

LD190024 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Excerpts] This week a new round of negotiations is to be held between the Pentagon representatives and British Defense Ministry on Britain's participation in the "star wars" program. Here in the studio with me [not further identified] now are our observers, Nikolay Borin and Vadim Muchkin.

[Presenter] The British press and senior NATO officials, Lord Carrington among them, have been saying there is no way of going back on the "star wars" venture and that the project cannot be abandoned now that it has been taken up. What are your views?

[Borin] Indeed that idea is very much in vogue now and it concerns not only the "star wars" program. For instance, certain people begin to talk at length about the inevitability of the existence of nuclear weapons as soon as they hear about plans for scrapping nuclear weapons. The idea that something cannot be disinvented appears to run counter to every kind of logic. It suggests that it is the progress of time and technology and not political thinking that relies on force, that is piling weapons up and pushing the human race to a holocaust. It would be unfair to say that the progress of science and technology runs out of control. After all, it is under very tight control in the West. It would be unfair to say either that research cannot be stopped once it has got underway. It can. After all, some American and British universities have cut short research programs of great scientific and humanitarian interest and after all, big scientific teams have abandoned what they were doing to contribute to "star wars" research. Take for instance a department of Edinburgh University which was, until recently, doing advanced research into artificial intelligence. The outsize funds earmarked for the development and manufacture of new weapons slowed down the efforts of scientists to combat cancer, famine, or, for that matter, the effects of the drought in Africa.

The next round of the Anglo-American talks on developing attack space weapons will very likely involve Britain still further into Pentagon plans, but the crux of the matter has nothing to do with political or cosmic inevitability, but rather with the political will of concrete people who are pushing the country in that direction.

[Presenter] Thank you Nikolay Borin. And my next question is to Vadim Muchkin here. Britain, according to reports, will be involved in developing lasers for the American program and it looks as though this is going to be one of the crucial research and development undertakings under the "star wars" program. What can you say on that score?

[Muchkin] Indeed, this is going to be the central part of the program, but the British side stands little or no chance of getting out of it more than any American corporation will. Secondly, lasers are the most politically and militarily dangerous aspect of the "star wars" program. There is every indication that it is much easier to prohibit space weapons now than try to control such a destabilizing and dangerous system at a later date. And banning space weapons now is exactly what Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has proposed.

[Presenter] Nikolay Borin and Vadim Muchkin commenting on the new round of British-American negotiations on the "star wars" program.

NATO ENDORSES CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESPITE INITIATIVE

LD181731 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 18 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: The NATO leadership is going to endorse without discussion a U.S. plan to produce new kinds of chemical weapons.

Reporting this, REUTER news agency said American General Bernard Rogers, supreme allied commander in Europe, had included binary chemical munitions on the list of priority military needs for 1986 through 1992.

In order to avoid undesirable political consequences, suggestions on this score will be formulated in a special NATO document which will be submitted to the defense ministers of the countries grouped in this bloc when they get together next May.

Preparing to replenish American chemical arsenals with binary weapons, which are another, still more dangerous variety of chemical warfare agents, Washington intends to deploy them in the territories of its NATO allies. The plan is just as insidious as was the one to deploy American first-strike nuclear-missile weapons, namely Pershing-2's and cruise missiles, in Western Europe. West European countries are becoming not only nuclear-missile launch sites of the Pentagon but also storages of "quiet death," as chemical weapons are metaphorically called. It is easy to visualize the danger to these countries flowing from the American plans.

When U.S. Congress last December agreed to appropriate 124.5 million dollars to produce new kinds of chemical weapons, it made a reservation, stipulating that this kind of manufacture could be started only after obtaining the consent of the U.S. allies in NATO to the deployment of those weapons in their territories. Such consent is currently being prepared at the NATO headquarters.

Now that the latest Soviet proposals have touched off broad-based calls everywhere for ridding the earth of the threat of chemical death, the NATO binary weapons plans are especially ominous. The principled Soviet stand, which provides for completely eliminating chemical weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture, is aimed at accomplishing the task within the near future. The concrete measures proposed by the USSR should be carried out under strict control, including international on-site inspections.

The USSR supports the proposal by the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia for establishing in central Europe a zone free from chemical weapons and the proposal by Bulgaria for creating such a zone also in the Balkans.

The exceptional significance of the Soviet initiative explains the extremely broad response it has evoked in all continents. The problem of chemical weapons, which is one of the most important to the future of humanity, must be solved.

U.S. EVADING DISCUSSION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD131849 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vladimir Matyash. The Washington administration, by resorting to invented pretexts, is evading a serious and concrete discussion of the Soviet proposals for eliminating along with nuclear weapons such barbaric means of mass annihilation as chemical weapons by the year 2000. As is known, it agreed at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva to give momentum to the talks on concluding an effective and verifiable international convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and on the destruction of their stockpiles.

One is surprised to know that U.S. State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb, asked about the American stance on the prohibition of chemical weapons, on February 12 actually rejected the Soviet proposals for concluding a treaty that would prevent their proliferation. The United States, he said, believes "that a chemical weapons non-proliferation aggreement would not be an effective means to deal with the chemical weapons problem." Thus, the United States intends to pursue its dangerous and short-sighted course towards erecting artificial obstacles at the multilateral talks on banning chemical weapons that are being held within the framework of the conference on disarmament in Geneva. Moreover, it is seeking to undermine the early Soviet-American accords.

Official Washington apparently intends to lead the talks into an impasse and start the implementation of its 10 billion dollar programme of chemical rearmament. The United States already possesses a huge arsenal of chemical weapons -- more than three million shells, airbombs and mines which add to about 150,000 tons of chemical munitions stored in depots of the United States and its NATO allies.

According to scientists, this is enough to annihilate all living things on earth many times over. Washington, however, is about to add to the available arsenal a new variety of chemical weapons -- binary weapons that are slated for deployment first of all on the territory of several Western European countries.

Under these conditions, the chemical disarmament proposals, advanced in the January 15 statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, are of exclusive importance. In the statement, the principled Soviet position in favour of the total elimination of chemical weapons and the industrial base for their production is oriented at resolving the problem within specific dates. This means that the convention should be worked out within the next 12-24 months. The key task of the convention is to ensure a total destruction of chemical stockpiles. The Soviet Union is prepared to start its shortly after the convention enters into force -- as soon as necessary technical preparations are completed.

The USSR also suggests handling another major problem -- a package of measures for preventing the functioning and for liquidating facilities which produce chemical weapons.

The Soviet statement lays particular emphasis on the following: The Soviet-proposed measures for ending the production of and eliminating chemical weapons and the industrial base for their production should be carried out under strict control, including international on-site inspections.

Preventing the further proliferation of chemical weapons would also contribute to the cause of peace. The Soviet position is such that a multilateral agreement should be reached to ban the transfer of chemical weapons to any other party and their deployment on the territory of other states.

The Soviet Union justly expects from the United States and its NATO allies a serious, businesslike approach to this, most vital, problem facing mankind.

'EUROPEAN ASPECT' VITAL TO DISARMAMENT

PM101207 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Candidate of Military Sciences Major General (Reserve) F. Gontar article under the rubric "Military Scientists' Opinion": "Cutting the Gordian Knot; European Aspect of the Nuclear Problem"]

[Text] The 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, put forward a range of principled foreign policy initiatives aimed at ending the nuclear arms race on earth, preventing it in space, and building trust as an inalienable component of relations among states.

The core of the Soviet proposals is a specific program running up to the end of this century for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide. The problem of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe has an important place in this program. This is conditioned by the fact that major groupings of NATO and Warsaw Pact troops equipped with medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons are concentrated there. On the European Continent the United States alone, not counting Britain and France, has over 7,000 nuclear charges. The bulk of them (more than 5,000 units) are sited in the FRG.

Contrary to the European peoples' security interests and commonsense arguments, 108 U.S. Pershing-2 medium-range nuclear ballistic missile launchers were hurriedly deployed in the FRG at the end of last year. Series production of these missiles (on the basis of three units for each launcher) is continuing in the United States on Pentagon orders.

As things stood at the end of last year 96 U.S. nuclear ground-launched cruise missiles [GLCM] had been deployed in Britain, 32 in Italy, and 16 in Belgium. The first of the 96 missiles, whose deployment was previously planned to begin only in 1987, have been shipped to the FRG from overseas.

In all, the Pentagon plans to site 464 nuclear GLCM's in the West European NATO countries by the end of 1988. And this despite the fact that the territory of the West European countries is already literally chockablock with nuclear weapons and has been turned into an enormous nuclear powder keg. Their elimination is a prime task in strengthening not only European, but international security.

In order to prevent a further raising of the level of nuclear missile confrontation in Europe, the Soviet Union proposed -- during the new Soviet-U.S. talks last March -- the declaration of a joint moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

However, the U.S. side refused to accept this moratorium on farfetched pretexts. Yet the Soviet Union, showing good will, reinforced its proposal with unilateral action, ending the deployment of medium-range missiles and the buildup of other retaliatory measures in Europe as of April 1985. The continuing siting of U.S. missiles in the West European countries can only complicate the implementation of the joint accord on accelerating work at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms.

The fact that militarist U.S. and NATO circles are blocking in every possible way the constructive resolution of the problem of lowering the level of nuclear missile confrontation in Europe is attested by a number of facts.

Speaking at the December (1985) NATO defense minister's session, Pentagon chief C. Weinberger announced the U.S. Senate decision to allocate $200 million for the construction in West European countries of the necessary infrastructure to expedite the continued deployment of U.S. nuclear GLCM's on their territories. This shows that the Pentagon is planning to dig in long and hard on the European Continent with its first-strike missiles.

The accelerated deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe is of exceptional concern to the European peoples. They recognize that these missiles are one of the most dangerous factors destabilizing the military-political situation and raising the nuclear confrontation level on the continent. This problem has been discussed for many years now. Meanwhile, security conditions in Europe continue to worsen. It is time to stop this development of events and cut this Gordian knot.

In order to improve the situation in Europe, reduce the threshold of military confrontation, and remove the risk of the outbreak of war in the region, the Soviet Union proposes in the first phase to implement its program, that is, to take the first radical step over the next 5-8 years, starting in 1986. In this phase a decision on the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles -- both ballistic and cruise -- in the European zone will be reached and implemented. This will require the development of appropriate procedures which will stipulate the amounts, timetables, and places in which these missiles will be destroyed and the means for reliable, including international, on-site verification [kontrol] and inspection [inspektsiya]. The United States must pledge not to ship its strategic and medium-range missiles to other countries and Britain and France must pledge not to build up their corresponding nuclear arms. And if the first phase of nuclear disarmament applies to the Soviet Union and the United States, this is merely because -- as the U.S. side stated at the Geneva summit -- they must set a good example to the other nuclear powers.

It is striking that the mass media in the United States and certain other NATO countries are claiming that the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles in Europe repeat the "zero option" once put forward by the U.S. President. This is deliberate disinformation. Reagan's "zero option" envisaged that the Soviet Union would have to destroy its medium-range missiles not only in the European zone, but in the east of the country. Moreover, it did not rule out the possibility of the American's transferring medium-range missiles to their allies and building up the corresponding arms of Britain and France. Thus, the U.S.-style "zero option" and the Soviet proposal for the complete elimination of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in the European zone have nothing in common. The Soviet proposal is a great and bold step along the road of completely ridding the continent of nuclear weapons without damaging either side's security interests.

In the second phase, which will start not later than 1990 and last for 5-7 years, the other nuclear powers, including Britain and France, will join in the nuclear disarmament process.

Initially, they would pledge to freeze their nuclear arms and not to hold any on the territories of other countries. In this period the Soviet Union and the United States would continue the reductions agreed on in the first phase and implement further measures to eliminate their medium-range nuclear arms while simultaneously freezing their tactical nuclear means everywhere.

This nuclear arms reduction procedure is proposed on the basis that British, French, and Chinese leaders have repeatedly stated that their countries would be prepared to join in the nuclear disarmament process only when the Soviet Union and the United States substantially reduced their nuclear arsenals. That is why the Soviet plan envisages that the other countries with these weapons would embark on nuclear disarmament in the second phase, after the Soviet Union and the United States reduced the nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territories; not just substantially, but by 50 percent. Moreover, according to the Soviet proposal the reduction of our countries' nuclear arsenals would begin with the destruction of tactical nuclear weapons, while those arms which they themselves call strategic would be destroyed only in the third phase (1995-1999), with the elimination of the Soviet and U.S. nuclear arsenals being completed simultaneously.

The Soviet proposal to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe has clearly annoyed Pentagon strategists. Striving at all costs to weaken its attraction, they are issuing various fabrications. They claim, for instance, that the Soviet Union, having scrapped its medium-range missiles in the European zone, could rapidly transfer medium-range missiles there from the Asian part of the country. But, first, Soviet medium-range missiles are not in the east to be transported hither and thither, but primarily, because the United States has nuclear means capable of reaching Soviet territory in that region. And second, if I may put the question to the authors of this "argument," how much time would the Pentagon need to transfer Pershing-2's from the United States to Europe using transport aircraft? So there is no logic in this type of "proof." We are faced merely with a desire to bring the resolution of such an important question for security in Europe to a standstill on any pretext.

In the West people are discussing the question of whether the Soviet-U.S. accord reached at the Geneva summit on a mutually binding solution to the problem of nuclear and space arms remains in force. The Soviet Union, as follows from M.S. Gorbachev's statement, firmly proceeds on the basis that the reduction and subsequent elimination of nuclear arms are only possible given a joint Soviet and U.S. refusal to create [sozdaniye], test, and deploy space strike arms. This is not an arbitrary linkage of two different questions. It is a question of their objective, organic, and material interconnection, which cannot be severed. Instead of spending immense resources on creating [sozdaniye] space strike arms that are extremely dangerous to mankind and which could allegedly make nuclear weapons unnecessary, is it not more sensible to destroy and ultimately, eliminate nuclear weapons? Our country is proposing just such a course.

It should be stressed that the Soviet program attaches great importance to the problem of ending nuclear tests. That is why the Soviet Union has extended its moratorium on all nuclear explosions through 31 March this year and urged the United States to join the moratorium. A complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests would be an important practical step toward their elimination.

Speaking of the importance of the European aspect of the nuclear problem, M.S. Gorbachev stressed: "If it were possible, without stalling or burdening the work with other problems, to eliminate Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles on our continent, we would probably have unraveled one of the complex knots of current world politics and cleared the way considerably for a radical reduction in nuclear weapons and subsequently, their complete elimination." Therein lies the essence of the USSR's constructive position.

SOVIET INITIATIVE 'SHATTERS' MILITARY THREAT THESIS

PM051015 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Second Edition pp 2-3

[Doctor of Military Sciences Lieutenant General M. Kiryan article under the rubric "Policy of Peace Versus Policy of War": "In the Interests of the Peoples' Security"]

[Text] The package of major new foreign policy initiatives put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and above all, the concrete program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000, aroused a tremendous response throughout the world. Soviet people, our friends abroad, and progressive mankind regard the statement as a very important, crucial document in the struggle of the CPSU and the Soviet State for a lasting, universal peace and as a vivid expression of the Soviet Union's readiness and determination to actively develop and strengthen the "spirit of Geneva." The Soviet Union, the USSR Supreme Soviet's appeal to the U.S. Congress notes, has for the first time in the history of the nuclear age put forward a detailed, concrete program, with precise calculations as to time, for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere.

The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general sectetary of the CPSU Central Committee, confirms again and again that the course of peace and disarmament is the pivot of the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet State. This document of historic significance endows the party's programmatic tenets on its international policy with concrete content and fully accords with the draft new edition of the CPSU Program -- the party's main theoretical and political document.

The draft new edition of the CPSU Program expresses in its entirety the Soviet concept of establishing peace on earth and formulates clearly and specifically the fundamentals of the party's international policy. This document demonstrates our party's broad approach to international affairs and its ability to look reality in the face without prejudice, to assess events objectively, and to react flexibly to the demands of the moment.

This broad, realistic, considered approach is particularly necessary in conditions where a very dangerous trend has emerged in the policy of the major capitalist states. The practical actions of imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism, cast an increasingly clear light on the nature of this policy: social revenge on the basis of achieving military superiority over socialism, the suppression of progressive liberation movements by force, and the maintenance of international tension at a level permitting its initiators to justify in the public's eyes the creation of more and more new types of mass destruction weapons and the militarization of space.

The Soviet Union resolutely opposes this policy and the attempts to forcibly halt and reverse the course of history. In relations with the capitalist countries the CPSU proceeds on the basis that the historical dispute between the two opposing social systems can and must be resolved by peaceful means. Our party firmly and consistently upholds the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. The policy of peaceful coexistence presupposes, first and foremost, the renunciation of war and the use of the threat of force as a means of resolving disputes and presupposes overcoming such disputes through talks.

With a view to ensuring lasting peace and security for the peoples, the CPSU and the Soviet State do everything necessary to break the vicious circle of the arms race and take every opportunity to bring about a change for the better in the course of international events.

The Soviet Union proposes a comprehensive package of measures to close all avenues of the arms race -- in space or on earth, for nuclear, chemical, or conventional weapons. Our proposals on this score are well known.

At the same time, the Soviet Union is adopting appropriate measures to ensure the reliable defense of socialist gains and strengthen the country's defense capability. Here too, there are specific warnings. Thus, the draft new edition of the CPSU Program points out: While the danger exists of imperialism unleashing aggression, military conflicts, and provocations of various kinds, unremitting attention must be devoted to strengthening the USSR's defense might and reinforcing its security. The CPSU, the document goes on to say, will make every effort to ensure that the USSR Armed Forces are at a level such as to exclude strategic superiority for the forces of imperialism.

The establishment of military-strategic parity between the Soviet Union and the United States and the Warsaw Pact and the NATO bloc was an historic achievement for socialism. It consolidated the position of the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, and all progressive forces and thwarted the hopes of imperialism's aggressive circles for securing victory in a world nuclear war. The preservation of this equilibrium, the draft new edition of the CPSU Program notes, is the major guarantee of ensuring peace and international security.

Our position on this question was set forth at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva: The Soviet Union is against changes in the strategic balance. The U.S. President was told quite clearly that the Soviet Union will find a reply to the U.S. Administration's attempts to obtain military superiority. It will be an effective response; quick enough and probably less costly than the U.S. program.

However, aggressive imperialist circles, especially U.S. circles, which are in the grip of a desire for world domination, are unwilling to reconcile themselves to military-strategic parity. Fabricating and exploiting the myths about a "Soviet military threat" and their own supposed laggardness in the military sphere, the U.S. Administration steps up efforts to attempt to achieve strategic superiority. Here the extension of the arms race to space is brought to the fore. The United States is embarking on the implementation of the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), which in effect means the siting of strike weapons in space. It is consequently a question not of defense, but of the creation of conditions under which the United States, or so they think, would be able to attempt a first nuclear strike without fear of retaliation. It is a question of inserting an arms system into space which could give its possessors the illusion of invulnerability and be a motive encouraging the unleashing of aggression.

Hopes of invulnerability and impunity are, of course, unfounded. The possibility of creating an "absolutely impenetrable space shield" is precisely nil. Nonetheless, the work on these weapons in itself constitutes a threat to the existing military equilibrium and increases the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war. That is why the Soviet Union and the world public actively oppose the space militarization plans.

With a view to attempting to take the heat out of the antimilitarist actions of the planet's peace-loving forces, the U.S. Administration is making desperate efforts to conceal from the peoples the true aims and nature of its SDI program, making out that strike weapons in space are designed to make nuclear arms unnecessary and that the elimination of nuclear weapons can be approached through the creation of qualitatively new arms and their deployment in space.

But building a policy on this calculation is an irremediable mistake. If strike weapons are placed in space, the nuclear arms race, far from being stopped, will develop with unprecedented force and proceed in the most dangerous directions.

The Soviet Union believes that the most radical solution to the problem is the total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere.

The world public now awaits a concrete response from the U.S. Administration to the Soviet Union's large-scale peace initiatives. But official Washington's initial reaction to them itself causes involuntary alarm. While welcoming the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and expressing the hope that the Soviet proposals are a useful next step in the nuclear arms reduction process, U.S. President R. Reagan completely avoids the question of fundamental importance -- that of preventing the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms. Nor does the U.S. President touch on this question at all in his statement in connection with the fourth round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms which has begun in Geneva.

Moreover, other official Washington spokesman, in particular Pentagon chief C. Weinberger, express themselves clearly and quite definitely on this problem. He stated frankly that there will be no shifts in the U.S. position on the SDI program. The United States will continue to implement SDI, U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz echoes him.

At the same time, the Soviet side has said extremely clearly that nuclear arms reduction is only possible given a mutual renunciation by the Soviet Union and the United States of the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms and that the creation of space strike weapons will eliminate hopes for nuclear arms reduction on earth. Conversely, preventing the arms race from spreading to space means removing the obstacle to deep nuclear arms reductions.

Putting a padlock on the resolution of the problem of space means not wanting to stop the arms race on earth. Not for nothing are the supporters of the nuclear arms race also zealous supporters of the "star wars" program. These are two sides of the same policy, a policy hostile to people's interests.

The imperialist adherents of this policy are far from understanding that mankind is at a crucial stage in the new space age. That it is time to renounce the Stone Age way of thinking, when the main task was to provide yourself with a bigger stick or a heavier stone. What is needed now are new approaches, a new way of political thinking, a keener sense of responsibility for the peoples' fate. The Soviet Union's material and intellectual potential is sufficiently high to ensure the possibility of creating any weapons if we are forced to do so. But as M.S. Gorbachev's statement says, we are fully aware of our responsibility to present and future generations. It is our profound conviction that we must enter the third millennium not with the "star wars" program, but with large-scale projects for the peaceful exploration of space using all of mankind's forces.

The Soviet Union is resolutely opposed to the siting of weapons in space. It also proceeds on the basis that it is impermissible to submit to the elemental forces of the nuclear race. This idea permeates the entire Soviet program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. In the context of the measures put forward, the Soviet Union has adopted an important decision and extended its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions for 3 months.

This moratorium has been in force since 6 August 1985. The U.S. ruling circles have had enough time to join it.

But official representatives did not take that step and have still not done so. Moreover U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger has stated: "We consider it important for us to continue tests according to plan" with a view to modernizing strategic arms. By testing more and more new nuclear devices, the U.S. side continues the pursuit of the impossible dream of military superiority. This is a futile and dangerous policy. A policy unworthy of the level of civilization which modern society has reached.

The Soviet Union's new large-scale peace initiatives are based on the principle of equal security for all. They are not detrimental to anyone's interests. They contain no attempts to outwit or beat the other side.

By proposing a concrete, phased plan for the reduction and ultimate total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000 and calling for the nonmilitarization of space, the elimination of chemical weapons, and the coordinated reduction of conventional arms and armed forces, the Soviet Union shatters the false thesis of the imperialist ideologists about the "Soviet military threat."

The Soviet Union has never set itself the goal of achieving military-strategic superiority. It has followed and follows today the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence, which is determined by the socialist social system and our morality and philosophy. The Soviet Union consistently advocates the renunciation of war as a means of resolving international questions and smooth, correct interstate relations based on true respect for international legal norms.

The Soviet proposals contain a just approach to present-day problems; they embrace all the means which make up the correlation of forces and they make it possible to take into account the volume of the nuclear threat which really exists for each side, regardless of how and from where the nuclear charges are delivered to their territory -- by missile or plane, from the other side's own territory or that of its allies.

In its policy our party is guided by the fact that, however great the threat to peace created by the policy of aggressive circles of imperialism, world war is not a fatal inevitability. The CPSU is approaching its 27th congress with a concrete program for further progress toward communism and for the struggle for peace and international security. Preventing war and protecting mankind against catastrophe -- it sees this as the historic mission of socialism and all the planet's progressive and peace-loving forces.

SOVIET, U.S. GENEVA DELEGATIONS HOLD PLENARY MEETING

LD141256 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 14 TASS -- The delegations from the Soviet Union and the United States to talks on nuclear and space arms held a plenary meeting here today.

CEMA SUCCESSES CITED AT PRESS CONFERENCE

LD181852 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1410 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 18 Feb (TASS) -- The total national income of the CEMA countries in the years from 1981 to 1985 increased by 17-18 percent as compared to the period of the last 5-year plan, which means a substantial top of the indexes for the Western states, academician Oleg Bogomolov, the director of the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System said. He spoke at the press conference today at the press center of the 27th CPSU Congress. Yuriy Kozhin, deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR, Arnold Romanov, deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Sciences and Technology, and Vyacheslav Sychev, secretary of CEMA also took part in the conference.

Much data proving that the CEMA is the most dynamically developing group of countries in the world, with regard to economics, were given at the press conference. Within a 5-year period, the total extent of the foreign trade of the CEMA countries increased by 40 percent and the extent of their reciprocal trade within the framework of the council grew by 60 percent.

The labor productivity in the CEMA countries increased by 15 percent in the years from 1981 to 1985. Along with this, 90 percent of the increase in the output of industrial production in these countries has been insured by the growth in labor productivity.

It was noted at the press conference that the successful implementation of the CEMA comprehensive program of scientific and technological progress up to the year 2000 will be a powerful impulse for the further development of equal, reciprocally advantageous trade and economic links between the CEMA countries.

As to the structure of the reciprocal trade of CEMA countries, it was said at the press conference in the present 5-year period its improvement is planned, in particular in the direction of increase in the specific share of ready production, including machines and equipment, within the overall trade turn-over. At the present time, 40 percent of the total volume of trade within the framework of CEMA is accounted for by machinery and equipment. During the years 1986-1990, reciprocal supplies of high-level scientific equipment will grow at a fast rate: equipment for atomic power stations, flexible production systems, robot technology, and automated systems. It is planned to increase reciprocal supplies among the CEMA member countries of a wide variety of consumer goods, which will provide the possibility of satisfying consumers' demands for various products produced in the CEMA countries.

It was stressed at the press conference that the success of the CEMA member countries in economic development is of service, first and foremost, to the cause of further raising the standard of living of the working people in the CEMA countries.

VOSS RETURNS FROM WARSAW PARLIAMENTARY MEETING

PM181448 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities and deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, returned to Moscow 15 February from Warsaw, where he took part in the consultative meeting of leaders of socialist countries' parliamentary groups. At the airport he was met by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, and other officials.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD150026 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 14 Feb 86

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by foreign affairs commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, with political observer Nikolay Shishlin and commentator Pavel Kasparov]

[Excerpts] [Lavrentyev] Hello comrades. I would like to begin today's program which, as always, comprises replies to your letters, with a theme which is touched upon in the majority of the correspondences to some extent or another. It is the question of the search for a peaceful future for our planet and to the Soviet Union's efforts that are directly linked to this, and precisely aimed at the attainment of this noble aim. In our news bulletins we regularly report on what a great and positive response the Soviet proposals set out in Comrade Gorbachev's statement of 15 January are receiving in the world. Your letters also contain support for them, At the same time, a number of radio listeners -- Sergy Mikhailovich Pirev from Novosibirsk, Comrade Rodionov from (?Ukhtomsk), and others -- justifiably ask: Why has the U.S. Administration so far given no specific reply to our new proposal? What is the motive for its silence? I asked political observer Nikolay Shishlin to reply to this and to certain other questions connected with this topic. Over to you, Nikolay Vladimirovich.

[Shishlin] First, it must be noted that, naturally, the comprehensive plan for peace and disarmament which was put forward by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary in mid-January is a wide-ranging, all-embracing plan and it is, in itself, so many-sided that it requires some study. In this respect, the references which the U.S. Administration is making for the need to reflect upon and attentively analyze the set of Soviet proposals are justified to some extent. But I simultaneously understand the question why, nonetheless, there has not yet been a specific reply in the course of almost a month. On the one hand the United States, as if it already had prepared a reply, is now conducting consultations with various countries in Europe and Asia so that it can take its final shape. As you know, Nitze, the special assistant to the President and the secretary of state on disarmament, is in Europe for this purpose, and, in the same capacity, Washington's highly placed emissary Rowny is in Asia.

Well, naturally the results of the consultations will reveal the details, but the second feature characteristic of Washington's reflections today is that both political figures and the U.S. press in my opinion, excel more in questioning the Soviet initiatives that in working on any counter movements of their own for the sake of working out a reasonable compromise. Well, there are countless questions on this score, although the answer to many of them already has been given in the statement by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary and in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's recent interview to the French newspaper L'HUMANITE.

But what question in particular so they like to ask in the United States with regard to, say, the issue of halting nuclear tests? It must be stated that time is passing and not much remains until 31 March, the expiration date of the Soviet unilateral moratorium on conducting nuclear explosions. As before, the United States is excelling in all kinds of questions. They stated at the beginning that since it is possible to introduce a unilateral moratorium, than it ought to be a subject of talks. But the Soviet proposals which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made in mid-January speak of the Soviet Union's preparedness to enter urgently into talks with the United States and Great Britain on the question of halting all nuclear tests.

The United States also asks this question: What kind of verification will there be? The Soviet Union is, in essence, prepared to introduce comprehensive verification, even going as far as on-site verification. So, these questions in themselves are not just the consequence of an attempt to somehow delve into, to refelct upon, this comprehensive plan for peace and disarmament. In my opinion, these questions are more characteristic of an unpreparedness on the U.S. side to change the political landmarks and to switch over on a lasting basis to a quest to achieve an accord with the Soviet Union.

Washington in now stating that the reply being worked on, which already has essentially been prepared in some form, will be of a positive nature. An then, as a matter of fact, the world will see that the United States is prepared to follow the direction of a curtailment of the arms race on earth. Nonetheless, at the same time as it speaks of the positive nature of this forthcoming reply, there are still doubts when one considers both the U.S. military programs and its blind adherence to its "star wars" plans, which literally is manifested daily on all political levels. Thus I believe that our radio listeners' concern that the Americans are delaying in their response is a justified concern.

[Lavrentyev] Nikolay Vladimirovich, our radio listeners are interested to learn whether the political climate in the United States changed at all after Geneva.

[Shishlin] That is not an easy question, of course, since it is not a simple matter to measure the political climate, especially in the United States where it is subject to all kinds of short-term fluctuations. But somehow or other, if you soberly evaluate the situation, I believe certain changes of a favorable nature have been taking place within the United States' political climate since Geneva. Precisely since Geneva, since the summit meeting with the Soviet leader, President Reagan has been receiving very tolerable results in public opinion polls as a man who, in the eyes of Americans, seems to be acquiring a skill of communicating with the Soviet Union, the skill of conducting a dialogue with the Soviet leaders. I don't know on what the U.S. evaluations are based since, overall, it still must be said frankly that the Soviet-American dialogue is developing with difficulty and that, in this respect, 1986 will be a year of serious testing, a year of serious examination of the words and statements which have been made. However, words and statements will no longer be sufficient to reach and evaluation of the true state of both the political climate in the United States and of the degree of U.S. preparedness to reach a compromise with the Soviet Union.

In talking about the political climate in the United States. I would like to draw attention to a number of factors. The prominent U.S. senator, Kennedy, was in our country recently. He made an appearance on our central television. He met scientists and was received by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary. The frame of mind which Kennedy expressed is not just the frame of mind of this specific senator. It is the frame of mind of a quite influential part of the contemporary political elite in the United States, which believes that it is essential to overcome the tension between the Soviet Union and the United States, to overcome the acute confrontation, and to attempt to find a solution for some of the quite complicated problems regarding the curtailment of the arms race. Incidentally, you probably noticed that the same Senator Kennedy is a convinced opponent of the Strategic Defense Initiative.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that more than 400 representatives of U.S. business circles were in Moscow near the end of last year. This experience also is an indication of a certain change not only in the economic climate -- it is unfortunately, quite persistently cold, in fact -- between the Soviet Union and the United States. But it is an indication of the political mood, in general, in the United States.

I would not underestimate those steps, modest as they may be, which are being taken in developing cultural links between the USSR and the United States, in the enrichment and intensification of scientific exchanges, and sporting links. All of this is, of course, useful. All of this is working toward a change in the climate.

But, somehow or other, we must soberly take account of the fact that we are dealing with peripheral questions thus far. The central questions, questions of security, questions of the curtailment of the arms race on earth and the prevention of its transfer to space, are still blocked by the U.S. position. And, if you take a look at how they are trying to form the United States budget for the coming 1987 fiscal year, we once again see a growth in military expenditure, a growth in military programs all in the same sensitive directions, including in the direction of the implementation of the "star wars" plans. So, in replying to this question of changes in the U.S. political climate since Geneva, one must be quite cautious. There are some small shifts, some changes are taking place. But these small shifts and changes are not yet of a radical nature.

[Lavrentyev] And finally, the last question which worries very many people. What is to be expected from the new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting?

[Shishlin] First of all, we must take clear account of the fact that there is an accord on a new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. A visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the United States is intended for 1986. And in 1987 the Soviet Union is prepared to receive here President Ronald Reagan of the United States. That is the first thing. There is indeed an accord.

The second thing — the time of the visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the United States has not yet been agreed upon. It is still the subject of diplomatic procedures, and the date of the visit has not been officially set. It is quite obvious that if there is no movement in the main aspects of world politics, if certain accords between the Soviet Union and the United States are not attained on the key problem of the curtailment of the arms race on earth and the prevention of its transfer to space, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said in his conversation with Senator Kennedy, the summit meeting itself becomes meaningless. This is a statement of the political realities which confront us in 1986. It is an expression of the degree of responsibility with which the Soviet Union approaches both Soviet-U.S. relations as such and the summit meetings which ought to be the motor, the engine to help a smoothing-out of relations to progress, and with which it approaches the development of peaceful cooperation for the good of the Soviet and U.S. peoples and for the good of universal security.

[Lavrentyev] Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Pochuvalov of Perm enquires about the state of Soviet-Argentinian relations, What, he asks, did the recent visit to our country by Dante Caputo. Argentina's minister of foreign relations and worship, do for their development? By way of reply to this question, we present an interview granted by Dante Caputo to our correspondent Anselmo Sebtien:

[Begin recording in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation] The end of this visit to the Soviet Union is a moment at which to evaluate it, and this evaluation is most certainly a positive one. Our visit occured in an atmosphere of exceptional hospitality and cordiality, says the Argentinian minister. Although differences exist between our countries as regards our sociopolitical systems, this cannot prevent us from maintaining fruitful contacts in various fields. Our visit is typical in that, in addition to the existing diplomatic and trade links, it has helped extend relations into the political sphere.

In this connection, Dante Caputo goes on, I would like to stress that political relations are being established on the basis of complete agreement on such important questions as disarmament, detente, and peace.

The peace plan set forth by Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 15 January this year is seen by us as a highly positive one, the Argentinian minister of foreign relations stresses. We regard it as a step forward in the cause of ensuring peace and security for all peoples. For its part, Argentina is striving to make a contribution to this process. Jointly with five other states it has proposed an initiative calling for an end to the arms race and nuclear tests. So we and the Soviet Union are moving in the same direction in our approach to international problems.

Dwelling on the development of bilateral ties between our countries, Dante Caputo said that a very important document had been signed, an agreement on the sale of grain to the USSR over a 5-year period, as well as an agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation.

I would like to mention another very interesting detail, says Dante Caputo: The decision by both countries to publish, in both Moscow and Buenos Aires, a book about the centenary of relations between us. [end recording]

[Lavrentyev] Listener Nikolay Sergeyevich Rodionov from Vitebsk, pensioner Avdotiya Sergeyevna Mitina, from the town of Yefremov in Tula Oblast, and many others are interested in an explanation for the present unfriendly campaign of anti-Sovietism in the French press. Commentator Pavel Kasparov, who worked as our correspondent in Paris, replies:

[Kasparov] There is clearly no need to explain that anti-Sovietism in France, as in other capitalist countries of the world, came into the world literally the day after the victory of Great October. All the ferocity and hatred of the power of capital toward the power of the proletariat, socialist power, were united almost focally in this phenomenon. At the beginning, anti-Sovietism was what is called frontal. On gigantic posters of European cities, including Paris, there was an illustration of a terrible, ragged peasant with a bloody knife in his teeth inspiring genuine horror in passers-by. An inscription on the poster read: Here he is -- the Bolshevik. Fear him!

After this, anti-Soviet propaganda became much more subtle. The French no longer used the Bolshevik bandit to intimidate, but constantly repeated that with the coming of the new power Russia had allegedly been completely deprived of its historical heritage, culture and art and that the country was allegedly living according to some absurd laws which were incomprehensible to the rest of mankind. By the way, the thesis of what is called the absurdity of Soviet laws has not been written off even today. It is essentially precisely here that the present campaign of accusations addressed toward the Soviet Union on alleged human rights in our country has its roots. Considerable efforts to fan the flames of this transparently false campaign are made, too, by certain political forces of France where, incidentally, many so-called defense committees of various kinds created by renegades of every hue have taken root. Often the French also come up with stories in the style of James Bond declaring, for example, all Soviet diplomats, trade representatives or journalists in France to be spies who do nothing else but hunt for advanced Western technology or the military secrets of the republic.

Here we have come to yet another thesis enjoying wide currency among anti-Soviets both in the West as a whole and in France: the Soviet military threat.

Our country is purposely shown there as a crafty colossus armed to the teeth which is just waiting for an advantageous moment to attack the civilized Western world. This kind of propaganda falsehood can be found today in practically any of the country's right-wing newspapers.

Moreover, the theme is beginning to appear more and more frequently in programs of the state radio and television. Not long ago, for example, French television showed the program called Confronted with War in which the USSR was depicted as an aggressive power ready at any moment to unleash its tank columns on France. However, its authors put so many blatant lies in the program that, as the majority of viewers testified, they became obvious. But you see, someone might go and believe these tales. They are especially dangerous for young French people who, for the most part, are not familiar with the lessons of World War II. And from this point of view, we should not underestimate the influence of the anti-Soviet campaigns which, day in, day out, are being waged in the West, including in France.

The campaign which developed literally a few days ago in the French press, on the radio and television about the alleged appearance of thousands of unemployed people in the USSR can be called the latest specimen of unimaginable calumny against our country. The aim of the campaign is the same as that of other propagandist attacks against our country -- to discredit socialism and its real achievements in the eyes of the French. At the same time, hiding or distorting the truth about the Soviet Union and its peace-loving foreign policy is becoming ever more difficult.

In this sense, the visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to France and his speeches there on national television and to parliamentarians and also his recent replies to the questions of the French Communist newspaper HUMANITE, is of extremely great importance. It has historically come about, stressed Comrade Gorbachev in a conversation with the political director of the newspaper, that Soviet-French relations have traditionally been based on mutual affection and respect of the peoples for each other. The appearance now of stubborn efforts by certain cirlces in France to evoke enmity toward and distrust of the Soviet Union in the French and create a false picture of our country and its policy is all the more incomprehensible to us. We are grateful, said Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in conclusion, to French Communists and to HUMANITE for speaking out against anti-Sovietism.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM161841 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Vladimir Bolshakov "International Review"]

[Text] The World Is Changing

You do not have to look back very far sometimes to sense the reality of the changes taking place in the international atmosphere. Both in the West and the East today people are talking about the possibility of restoring detente. Not with a sense of elation, but with a certain optimism. Its source is obvious. It lies in the whole package of large-scale USSR peace initiatives which the world press is calling the Soviet "comprehensive peace program." Our party is taking this program confidently toward its 27th congress. Its essense was expressed with the utmost clarity in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Mankind has been offered a realistic prospect of freeing our planet from nuclear and chemical weapons by the year 2000.

In reply to L'HUMANITE's question about whether new signs of the restoration of detente in international relations have been noticed since the Geneva summit, M.S. Gorbachev said:

"Yes, some signs are beginning to appear. And it is not only and not so much a question of individual shifts in the sphere of Soviet-U.S. relations: They are too limited, peripheral, and do not affect the fundamental questions. Instead a certain change in the political atmosphere is already being felt. And that has engendered in the peoples of many countries a hope and belief in the possibility of returning to detente, ending the insane arms race, and developing normal peaceful international cooperation. This is already something real and politically significant."

On the one hand the Soviet Union's dynamic and purposeful foreign policy is causing confusion in the ranks of the cold war supporters, and on the other it is forcing even convinced opponents of socialism to take a new look at what is happening in the world. At a recent plenum of the Communist Party of the United States of America Central Committee, the U.S. Communists' leader Gus Hall said that since the summit, changes had occurred in the leading U.S. political and monopolistic circles, which have been reflected in the Reagan administration. Those circles, G. Hall noted, remain anti-communist and anti-Soviet in outlook. But their assessment of the balance of world forces has changed. Now you can see a certain realism based on their assessment of the lack of success of the 8-year-old cold war policy.

Serious opposition to the arms race program and the militarization of space can also be seen in the U.S. Congress. For example, D. Fascell, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, urged the administration to respond positively to the Soviet leader's statement and, in particular, to support the USSR's proposal for a moratorium on all nuclear explosions. The House recently resumed the discussion of a resolution supporting a test ban treaty submitted by 208 congressmen last October.

Sober-minded Americans are sounding the alarm. They demand that the administration "not miss the opportunity," that it respond constructively to the Soviet proposals, and that it not complicate the entirely attainable accords on a mutual reduction of the nuclear arsenals by programming the arms race for decades to come. For example, Congressmen G. Brown and L. AuCoin recently demanded that spending on antisatellite weapons (ASAT) be excluded from the new budget. Representatives of the public organization Program for Peace and International Security have written in THE NEW YORK TIMES: "If our children's future is made dependent on an uncontrolled arms race and space weapons systems causing global instability, a terrible explosion may occur in which the whole world will burn."

The feelings of sober-minded Americans are echoed by many West Europeans' thoughts. H. Scheer, a leader to the Social Democratic Party of Germany's Bundestag faction, recently sharply criticized the Bonn Government's support for "star wars" and the continuation of nuclear tests. Commenting on the USSR's proposals, he said: "Instead of making use of this real opportunity to ban nuclear weapons tests, the FRG Government is doing the very opposite. Whoever approves of SDI must logically also block the banning of nuclear tests."

Is all this being taken into account in the White House during the formulation of a reply to the Soviet initiatives? The United States is now openly talking about an "intensified internal struggle on the important foreign and defense policy problems" which, as the PHILADELHPIA INQUIRER writes, is "vexing the upper echelons of the Reagan administration at a time when the President is facing the most serious political challenge from the USSR."

This struggle between the "hawks" and the "pragmatists" for influence over the President began back in the period of preparations for the summit meeting, as demonstrated by the "leak" to the press of the regrettable "Weinberger letter." It has now become more acute, particularly after the President expressed his gratitude to the Soviet leader for the new disarmament proposals.

These political battles within the Washington hierarchy explain to a considerable extent the reasons for the very long silence on the new Soviet initiatives -- after all, it is today exactly 1 month since M.S. Gorbachev's statement was published in the press and there has still been no reply to it from across the ocean. The U.S. Administration explains this delay by saying that as a preliminary move Washington had decided to "consult with its allies and friends." For that reason in particular P. Nitze, the administration's main expert in the disarmament sphere, toured the West European countries. He visited Bonn, Paris, London, and Brussels, where he conducted a special session of the NATO Council. General Rowny, another expert, went on the same mission to Tokyo and... Beijing.

While Washington is preparing its answer, the U.S. press is in its own way "formulating" the content of that reply. If these commentaries are to be believed, Washington is by no means burning with the desire to work at freeing the planet from nuclear weapons together with the nonmilitarization of space. Washington regards SDI like the Hindu "sacred cow" and is striving to impose this attitude on everyone. At the same time it is trying to confuse the issue by hinting that the Soviet Union has become "more flexible" in its approach to the problem of the nonmilitarization of space. However, the USSR has made it clear that the implementation of the "star wars" concept will nullify the hopes of reducing nuclear armaments on earth.

Judging by articles in the U.S. press, people are not adverse to hedging with various conditions the solution of the question of eliminating the USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. On the one hand their commentaries advise Britain and France not to agree to freeze their nuclear forces during the elimination of the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. And on the other they demand the unilateral reduction of the corresponding Soviet weapons in Asia, which are a counterweight to the U.S. nuclear potential existing there.

Is there really a blockage here -- on a question on which there are "points of contact," as noted in Geneva? This alarming thought is suggested, in particular, by the latest revelations of U.S. General Rogers, commander in chief of NATO's armed forces. "The destruction of medium-range weapons would mean," he stated, "that the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles will disappear from Europe, in other words, the very weapons linking European and U.S. security." How about that then!

So perhaps Washington's envoys who toured Western Europe and the Asian countries were interested not so much in finding out their allies' opinion on the Soviet initiatives as in imposing on them their own opinion of the whole package of Soviet disarmament proposals?

Among the leaders of the West European countries and other states allied to the United States, there is still no single opinion on the new Soviet initiatives. Both there and across the ocean the struggle is underway between the supporters of accords with the USSR leading to a nuclear-free 21st century and those who strive to perpetuate the cold war and the arms race. Nevertheless, in Europe, the cradle of detente, the sensible ones prevail. This cannot be ignored in the White House. There have been quite a few statements from there on the desire for peace. But practical actions show that the inertia in U.S. political thinking has not been overcome.

Yes, the West is now facing another "moment of truth." It must give a clear answer to the USSR's proposal: scrap all the weapons of mass destruction, both nuclear and chemical, in the world and enter a nuclear-free 21st century together. The very fate of mankind and of civilization on earth depends on that answer. And the leaders of the United States and other Western powers must answer first of all to their own peoples.

Washington "Zombies"

Those who saw the fine movie based on G. Greene's novel "The Comedians" will recall how the Tontons Macoutes, -- bodyguards of the Haitian dictator Duvalier senior, steal the corpse of the leader of the opposition. Papa Doc, as he was called, practised voodoo, a cult whose ministers have the ability to bring the dead back to life by turning them into zombies -- their will-less slaves. This sophisticated form of reprisal against the opponents of the harshest dictatorship that has ever existed in Central America was, of course, purely symbolic. In real life the terrible atrocities in Haiti were committed not by zombies reanimated by witch doctors but by those "living dead" who were elevated to the rank of "President for Life" at the will of U.S. monopolies and against the will of the Haitian people. At first this was President Francois Duvalier, who ruled from 1957 to 1971, and, after his death, it was his son Baby Doc, Jean-Claude Duvalier, president until 8 February this year. This country was not only horrendously poor. It was called the "poorest prison in the world." Therein lies the very essence of the bloody dictatorial regime, which for almost 30 years enjoyed official Washington's unfailing protection and assistance, including military assistance. The patrons of "human rights" in the White House and the U.S. Congress looked quietly on while the zombies under their control drank Haitians' blood and annihilated all dissenters. The terrible statistic that 1 prisoner in 10 died from torture in the first 5 days of captivity in Duvalier's jails, and that 80 percent of the rest died within 2 years from torture, starvation, and disease was well-known in Washington. But it was consistently asserted there that "there are no political prisoners in Haiti," which was a lie to Americans and the whole world, because Duvalier's butcher regime met all the main indicators of "democracy" U.S.-style: first, it was totally anticommunist, second, it was 100-percent pro-American, and third, it ensured the U.S. monopolies full freedom to make a fortune from the Haitians' sufferings and to rob them with impunity.

Everything comes to an end, however, even the people's long suffering. Sooner or later dictators throughout the ages have choked on the blood that they have shed. Such a moment came to Haiti, too. Actions against the dictatorial regime continued unceasingly from January 1986. The effects of the people's anger were not hard to predict: The "convenient" dictatorship next door to the United States would be swept away. And then his "own people" or, as the Western press more candidly puts it, the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince "persuaded" the dictator to leave the island. To that end the United States conducted "delicate negotiations" with France, which announced its readiness to grant Baby Doc temporary asylum, and assigned a special aircraft of the U.S. Air Force and 25 guards to quietly take him near Switzerland, where the dictator's millions had been set aside "for a rainy day."

At the same time, they prepared an "orderly change of power," a "new government." Made up of whom? The very same "zombies" -- military men trained in the United States and by American instructors in Haiti, men who made a career under Duvalier senior. Just like the French saying: "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose." What is most important is that all three indicators of adherence to American-style "democracy" are preserved.

How long will Washington go on gambling on political corpses and imposing them on the peoples as "healthy political forces"?

Can history really have taught nothing to the U.S. ruling circles, who still look on the whole world as their patrimony, assuming that from their Washington hilltop they can dictate to the peoples what system to choose, what government to elect, and what course to follow? In fact, this is the very essence of the fashionable new "neoglobalism doctrine" which has now been declared in Washington, one of whose first victims was the revolution in Grenada.

On 20 February, President Reagan will visit Grenada. What will he see on that island with a total area of only 112 square miles and a population of 110,000, occupied on 25 October 1983 by 6,000 "crusaders" in American uniform? What is the value of the "freedom" and "democracy" they brought on their bayonets?

Between 1979 and 1983 the Bishop government managed to cut unemployment in the country from 49 to 12 percent. Now approximately one-half of the able-bodied population is unemployed again.

In 1982, 37 cents of every dollar spent by the government went toward education and medical services. Some 50,000 people received free milk. Many such figures could be cited. Now that is all a thing of the past. The pro-American party which has come to power in Grenada, using dollars received from the United States in the course of "free elections," has cancelled virtually all social programs. Grenada is now ruled by the same old "zombies," brought back to political life by Washington in the name of the triumph of "free enterprise." They are obedient and malleable and their first gesture was to break off diplomatic relations with the socialist countries and swear loyalty to primitive anticommunism. Will they last long? Was it worth "reviving" them?

The gamble on political corpses whom the White House declares to be "freedom fighters" will not bring the United States any laurels and will only result in the senseless waste of money, in new sufferings for the peoples on whom the United States is trying to impose its will everywhere -- from Nicaragua to Afghanistan, from Angola to Libya -- and ultimately in indelible shame for the United States.

The times demand a new, wise approach to the resolution of both international and regional problems. Nobody's diktat is acceptable in the world community. Every people has the right to an independent choice of its path of political development. The dispute as to whose path is better cannot be resolved by force. Only the peoples themselves and history are capable of deciding that.

'TOP PRIORITY' PROGRAM ON U.S.-USSR RELATIONS

LD172331 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 17 Feb 86

[The "Top Priority" program presented by Vladimir Posner with Dr Radomir Bogdanov and Dr Sergey Plekhanov from the United States of America and Canada Institute in Moscow]

[Text] [Posner] Today let's look at one of these issues that usually are discussed in times of strife and also in times of what would seem to be like better relations and that is -- it is almost like a reflex -- what's good for the Russians is bad for the Americans, what's good for the Americans is bad for the Russians. And certain people are now looking at the proposals that were formulated by Mikhail Gorbachev from that approach: If this is what the Russians want then it's not very good for the Americans.

[Bogdanov] I'm sorry Vladimir, did you put it in affirmative terms or as a question? Because I had this feeling that it might be taken both ways. What is your position about it?

[Posner] I don't want to give you my position. What I'm saying is that the position of the people in the States who say this is: What's good for the Russians is bad for the United States. Do we agree with that?

[Bogdanov] Ya. In other words it's a zero sum gain. That's very, very well known, you know, definition of that situation between USSR and United States, which is to my mind very wrong. By the way, we talk about now, about the new dimensions of the thinking in foreign policy matters and I believe that that's exactly what is new in our thinking; that is that there's no zero sum gain in the Soviet-American relations. I mean to say that in the nuclear era, or to be more precise in the nuclear cosmic era -- and I believe that should be used now, not nuclear but nuclear cosmic era -- there is no zero sum gain. There is nothing more dangerous than that in our relations.

[Posner] Now if we look at the recent message on the State of the Union that was delivered by President Reagan I think we have to say that there is still a very strong thread there of security through power, through force, through military might. And if you look at what the Pentagon has been asking for -- something like an 8 percent increase in the military budget -- again it's a repetition of this view. In other words, security through force. And going back to the initial statement about what's good for the Russians is bad for the United States, that would almost seem to be a reply to Mikhail Gorbachev's offer to do away with nuclear weapons by the year 2000 over a three stage period. How do you feel about all this, Dr. Plekhanov? What is your opinion?

[Plekhanov] Well I think that is a clear example of obsolete, dangerously obsolete, thinking and of some very, very misleading -- misled and misleading -- notions about the nature of Soviet-American relations. I think it is about time that both sides really thought seriously, and I know for sure that I've thought about it seriously and I would like it if both sides did that. About the question. Is it good for one side to see the other side weakened, damaged, undermined, (?subverted). Can it be useful? What gain can it bring?

Unfortunately there is a very deeply ingrained tendency in American political thinking to assume almost unthinkingly and automatically that, well, you know, the Soviet Union is so bad that whatever is done to undermine and damage it must be good for the United States. But nobody really questions the basis of this assumption and the basis is very faulty. The assumption is wrong and it is based on some very misguided ideas about what communism is all about, what peaceful coexistence is all about. There have been mountains and mountains of lies amassed over the period of the cold war and unfortunately the short period of detente in 1970 was not enough in order that we, you know, reduce some of that backlog, which (?I was) thinking of. You know in the last few years we've seen a revival of cold war thinking and I think it's not incidental that the policy is made by those people whose thinking was formed precisely in the period of the cold war and they find it very difficult to get out of that straight jacket, to have a fresh look at what's going on in the world. They prefer to cling to the old notions and they are captives of the obsolete doctrine.

[Posner] Looking...look at the proposals once again. As you recall we offer to do away with all nuclear weapons by the year 2000 and there are some people who say but in reality that's a very clever game because the Soviet Union has an enormous, enormous edge in conventional weapons so the whole idea of doing away with nuclear weapons is really a ploy through which the Soviet Union can then get a military advantage.

[Bogdanov] I would rather say that there is a ploy from the other side. I'm sorry for that, that word. You know why? You know why there is a ploy from the other side?

They take a part of Gorbachev's statement in which it is said that by the year 2000 no more nuclear arms and therefore they don't talk about the other, relating to that, proposals of very important nature. For instance they don't mention that in the same statement there is a very substantial part devoted to conventional forces. It is said in that statement that there is a real progress in Vienna talks, there is a real progress in Stockholm talks, dealing exactly with conventional problems. And we went very far suggesting that on-the-spot inspection, that some other inspection, be open for that in conventional field, number one. Number two: we are going as far as suggesting that we propose to pay very special attention to the so-called conventional arms, which are becoming not less dangerous than the nuclear arms. And we suggest banning all the dangerous conventional arms and we are open for discussions on the strength of conventional forces. But let me state for the record that people telling about the edge in conventional forces on the Soviet side they are not very fair people. I'm sorry to say they are not honest people.

You take the so-called central front. You know, central Europe -- the central front -- where the military forces -- NATO and Warsaw Pact -- are head to head. And if you are fair enough you will see that our central forces and NATO's central forces are almost equal. There is some differences with some categories but on the whole they're balanced.

And number three, the overall balance between Warsaw and NATO is almost the same. NATO has something like 5 million people and we have something like that, even less than NATO has. But you know to be more sophisticated, to be more, you know, smart in that, what they say now, they say OK the Soviet side may have really equal numbers of soldiers, equal numbers of this or that but, they say, they are very smart people, that in western, parts of the Soviet Union, in western military district, they have very big advantage over the NATO because they can mobilize their forces quicker than NATO do and things like that. I have no time to discuss this matter just point to that. You know they have just a chain of, you know, of things very falsified figures, very false, and I believe that, Vladimir, one of our meetings with our American listeners we should devote to that point by point discussion and try to explain to them that there is no truth in all that.

[Posner] But by all means.

[Bogdanov] By all means, you know. But that what you have mentioned, that's very important. So I feel that there is a very big fight, you know, there is a very big fight around this stake. Sometimes, I should admit, it's very honest, you know, honest worry, honest question. Honest, you know, willingness to discuss. But sometimes, Vladimir, I'm sorry to say, you come across the same lies to the same distortion of the truth and I object to this very much.

[Posner] After November, the Geneva meeting, there was a lot of talk about the spirit of Geneva, a very wonderful thing, and yet as I acquainted myself with President Reagan's State of the Union message, there were certain thoughts and certain ways of expressing them which to me begged the question: Just how much attention is being paid to the spirit of Geneva? Allow me to quote the President. He said: We have devoted 5 years trying to narrow a dangerous gap born of illusion and neglect and we have made important gains. Yet the threat from Soviet forces, conventional and strategic, from the Soviet drive for domination, from the increase in espionage and state terror, remains great.

Now in view of Geneva and the meetings he had there how does this sound to you? How are we to look forward to the development of the spirit of Geneva and this spirit perhaps getting a little bit of bone and meat on it and becoming body? How do you feel about that, Dr Plekhanov?

[Plekhanov] Well I am sorry that the President made that statement. It is no different from what he has been saying all along. I think that it's clear that rhetoric like this is used in order to obtain a certain amount of federal expenditures for a continuing military program, the military buildup, the SDI, the nuclear rearmament, what have you. Actually this is the only way that one can hope to continue the military buildup, by invoking the specter of the great big Soviet threat. This is the function or role of the Soviet threat in American politics, in American government. So it's no surprise that he is talking about that. But, you know, obtaining money for military expenditures and maintaining this psychosis about the Soviet Union is one thing and dealing with the real world and with the real dangers that exist in that world is another. In Geneva President Reagan came perhaps the closest to facing the real world and I guess that there are people around him who are afraid now that maybe the President has seen too much of the real world and they are doing whatever they can to...

[Bogdanov interrupts] I think that is very important point you are bringing up on that matter.

[Plekhanov] They are just trying to pull him back into the old ideological shell in which he spent so much of his time. And, you know, therefore I think it is very important that the dialogue that was started in Geneva continue and, er, because that's one way that one can expect a more advanced thinking, and more realistic approach.

[Posner] Right, a final question to you on this issue. Let us imagine that indeed the Soviet threat -- I put that in quotes -- were to disappear, that reality would become obvious, that it would be seen that there is no need for this kind of huge military expenditures in the United States. Would that indeed be bad for somebody? In other words I am asking perhaps, indeed, what's good for the Soviet Union is bad for some parts of America?

[Bogdanov] Well I understand what you are aiming at Vladimir, you mean the so-called military-industrial complex. By the way, that definition was not produced by us. I just remind that to my American listeners.

[Posner] No, President Eisenhower, yes.

[Bogdanov] President Eisenhower, so we have nothing to do with that definition but somehow we accept it because we feel there is some truth in it. I do not belong to people who, you know, professes the theory of conspiracy, some military-industrial complex conspiracy, something like that, but of course when you spend on the so-called defense billions and billions, when the Reagan administration spends within several years over 1 trillion bucks on military defense...

[Plekhanov interrupts] ...1.2 trillion.

[Bogdanov] ...1.2 trillion, yes, yes Sergey, so of course you have a number of people interested in getting this money.

[Posner] Bread and butter issues, yes?

[Bogdanov] A bread and butter issue for them.

[Posner] Even caviar too.

[Bogdanov] Even caviar, oh yes Vladimir, and a lot of caviar by the way, a lot of caviar. So of course they would be interested in that and they are not to my mind, they are not nationally-minded people because they are very...they are caring about the immediate interest and they don't make a conclusion what does it bring back to America in the sense of reducing American security. And to my mind, you know, that's the responsibility of the American ruling elite or whatever it be, you know, to control all that, because sometimes at this end we have an impression that military-industrial, and I would add to that academic complex, which is to my mind is not less dangerous than military-industrial because they supply academics, they supply all, you know, ideas how to use military weapons, nuclear weapons, you know, because it is not less dangerous than to produce them. So that is their business, you know, to control this. But as I told you at this end we have, sometimes we have, an impression that it's going out of control, becoming uncontrolled and I understand why. More billions, more trillions to spend, more, you know, unstable you make the whole business.

[Posner] All right, er, yes. Dr Plekhanov?

[Plekhanov] I would just add a few things on this point. I met a young journalist from Massachusetts the other day and he was all enthusiastic about what military spending is doing to the economy of New England. He said, well, you know, if you saw it you would be very impressed, all those high technology orders coming from the federal government, and so on and so forth. I understand the people who are helpless before the argument of those who are saying that, well, you know, guns are good for the American economy, they keep the jobs, they allow the corporations to get richer and so on, that's capitalism. But I think one should ask a question: Is a military program the only kind of high technology spending that is open to high technology corporations in the United States? Why can't we, and I mean the Soviet Union and the United States, think up joint projects of space exploration which would demand even more advanced kinds of technology and would provide millions of people with new jobs and corporations with new orders. Why can't all those high technology firms think about, if it doesn't matter to them on what to spend their money, if it's just profits, why can't it be used productively?

[Posner] Well I think that you've thrown out a few thoughts for our listeners today, serious thoughts that should keep them busy for at least a week, so I want to thank both of you for participating in today's program. This is Vladimir Posner saying goodbye to the panel and to "Top Priority" until a week from today at the same time.

HABIB 'GROSSLY INTERFERING' IN PHILIPPINES

LD181425 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, February 18 TASS -- The mission of Philip Habib, a special representative of the U.S. President, is under the threat of failure. Philip Habib came to the Philippines to "reconciliate" the conflicting political groupings, but actually he is grossly interfering into internal affairs of that sovereign country.

According to the press, the leader of the opposition Corazon Aquino has told the emissary of the White House that she will agree to nothing but Ferdinand Marcos' stepping down from the presidency. Speaking to journalists, she criticized Washington's attempts to exert pressure upon her.

Ferdinand Marcos also turns down pressure from the envoy of the White House. Whatever conclusions are made by Philip Habib, Marcos makes it clear that he does not intend to recognise the election returns as null and void, stresses a correspondent of the U.S. NBC television company. Ferdinand Marcos is confident that he will be able to stabilise the situation in the country irrespective of American support.

The opposition stubbornly rejects the official election returns, accusing the ruling regime of rigging the elections and demanding that Corazon Aquino be recognised as winner of the elections. The United States, having encountered the threat of a further heightening of tension, is making feverish efforts to put the situation in the Philippines under its control. Along with the use of political and financial-economic levels they in Washington do not rule out the use of military force.

A new mass demonstration of protest against U.S. interference into internal affairs of the Philippines was held today outside the American Embassy in Manila. Several thousand demonstrators chanted the slogan "Yankees, go home". Anti-American sentiments are mounting in both camps -- those of Marcos and Aquino, notes a REUTER correspondent.

Assassination Plan Noted

LD181744 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] An anti-Philippine campaign is growing in the United States. The PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY reports some American congressmen are nurturing plans for the CIA to assassinate Ferdinand Marcos. Senator Jeremiah Denton has Congress believing the present Philippine president is unable to insure American interests in his country in full. The largest U.S. overseas bases are located in the Philippines.

U.S. 'APPLAUDS' FRENCH MILITARY ACTION IN CHAD

LD181831 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 18 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyfull-Mullyukov]

[Text] The U.S. Administration applauds the bold action by France in Chad -- that is how a State Department spokesman expressed the White House's official attitude to the French intervention in this African country. Meanwhile, French Jaguar strike aircraft and Mirage fighters continue to arrive at Ndjamena airport, and soldiers of fortune are hurrying to the aid of the French expeditionary corps from neighboring African states. Washington has announced a speed-up of military supplies to Chad.

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan Jamahariyah stated that the United States and France are cooperating in creating a U.S. military base in Chad; this would make it possible for the United States to influence the course of events in central Africa, he stressed. Libya, he said, does not intend to interfere in Chad's internal affairs, even though Paris has broken its pledges concerning this country.

ANATOLIY GROMYKO CRITICIZES 6TH FLEET MANEUVERS

PM181315 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Interview with A.A. Gromyko, director of the Africa Institute and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, under the rubric "Interview by the Teletypewriter": "Dangerous Brinkmanship"]

[Text] The following TASS report was received in the editorial office:

"The Organization of Mediterranean Socialist and Progressive Parties has issued a resolute condemnation of the U.S. 6th Fleet's maneuvers directly off the Libyan coast."

We asked Anatoliy Andreyevich Gromyko, director of the Africa Institute and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, to comment on this report.

Such alarming reports, coming not only from the North African region, have merged today, figuratively speaking, into a united international chorus that is making it very difficult for Washington to escalate its anti-Libyan campaign. The Mediterranean peoples, despite the NATO countries' American propaganda efforts, condemn the irresponsible actions of the American Administration and its partner, Israel -- actions fraught with the possible emergence of an armed conflict. But some people in Washington today are impatient to use the doctrine of "neoglobalism" in practice and to intimidate Arab and African peoples with its sinister imperial spirit. The "new globalism" is the old song of violence and blackmail in a new wrapping.

It is precisely against Libya that the United States has tried to strike, using methods of military blackmail and economic blockade and not abandoning, in principle, armed intervention against the sovereign state.

But the "hawks" of Washington and Tel Aviv have been unable to "bleed" the country that is in the vanguard of the struggle for Arab independence. All American sanctions against the Libyan Jamahiriya have encountered resistance even from allies. One can only be amazed at the thickheadedness of American politicians who are continuing to fuel tension off Libya's coasts. The second maneuvers in the first 6 weeks of the new year are already in full swing.

Balancing on the brink of a military conflict, the American Administration is seeking to provoke the Libyan leadership into actions that might serve as grounds for direct aggression. According to President Reagan's words at a recent press conference, "he has given his approval" for U.S. warships and aircraft to intrude into Libya's waters and airspace. And Washington's representative to the UN Security Council vetoed a draft resolution condemning the Israeli act of air piracy against a Libyan civilian aircraft.

Despite world public protests, the United States and Israel are continuing to implement their militarist plan to establish hegemony in the region, which hinges on the destabilization and overthrow of M. al-Qadhdhafi's government, which is pursuing an independent anti-imperialist policy. Under such conditions Libya reserves the right to defend its security and sovereignty in every possible way.

REAGAN PLANNING CREATION OF CARIBBEAN BLOC

LD181601 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1045 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Georgetown, 18 Feb (TASS) -- The Washington administration is pushing through the turning of the so-called "Caribbean forces for the maintenance of peace" into a nucleus of a reactionary military and political bloc being knocked together by the United States in the region. This is precisely the aim, in the opinion of observers in the Caribbean countries, of the 1-day visit to Grenada by U.S. President Reagan, which will take place on Thursday of this week. He is also planning to meet there with leaders of certain Caribbean countries. It is presumed that one of the main matters at the meeting will be the creation of the reactionary bloc that will take on the function of the United State's gendarme in the region.

It is far from an accident that Grenada has been chosen as Washington's place for the meeting. It was this Caribbean island state that became one of the victims of the U.S. policy towards active fanning of regional conflicts and intensifying U.S. interference in the affairs of other states, which was officialized in the form of the so-called "doctrine of neoglobalism." In accordance with this imperialist doctrine the United States is waging undeclared wars against Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan,and other states.

The international airport at Point Salinas, the building of which began on Grenada at the time of the Maurice Bishop government, has been virtually turned into an air base by the Pentagon. The plan by the White House to "dedicate" this airport, on the site of which the blood of hundreds of completely innocent people was shed during the U.S. intervention, to the U.S. President seems like blatant cynicism and a mockery of the national feelings of Grenadians.

On the matter of establishing monitoring of the Carribean basin Washington is collaborating closely with its junior NATO partner, Great Britain. According to press reports Britain has begun the creation of their "rapid deployment force" there, the main target of which will be the Caribbean countries. According to figures in the Grenadian INDIES TIMES about 10,000 men will make up this corps. The first maneuvers by the British "rapid deployment force," which will act in close interaction with the similar U.S. interventionist corps, are planned to be held as soon as this year.

Commenting on London's decision the paper points out that it has arisen out of a desire to secure the military presence of Britain even in such a distant region of the earth from Great Britain as the Caribbean basin.

DRAMA AT U.S. EMBASSY CONCERT RECOUNTED

LD181343 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1113 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Commentary by TASS observer Viktor Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Feb (TASS) -- A reception was going on at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. The highlight of the program was a dazzling "Steinway" grand piano, the property of the host, worth $60,000, and the pianist Feltsman, invited to play on it.

Well, the grand piano became the pretext for a major scandal. When the pianist was running his fingers along the keyboard, the splendid instrument suddenly started playing out of tune. The maestro went into hysterics. The foreign journalists, just as though they had been waiting for this moment, dashed to see this "sensation". Cameras clicked, under the lights of the TV cameras Feltsman examined the inside of the "Steinway" and, pulling a tragical face, uttered: -- Some has sawn the strings...And added: -- I know who.

Several foreign correspondents at once sent out sensational reports. There was everything there, "sabotage by local personnel" as well as "the persecution of a young pianist by the authorities" and even "pressure on the embassy of a foreign state". To the accompaniment of the U.S. propagandist and diplomatic "orchestra" the false string became the solo theme of a malevolent anti-Soviet spectacle.

The concert did take place, of course. But the stir around it was meant to demonstrate to the whole world the incredibly difficult conditions in which U.S. Embassy have to carry out their mission. The subject is not a new one! The world has often been told that U.S. diplomats in Moscow are irradiated with invisible rays, sprinkled with some substance as if they were roaches, given poisoned water to drink, and recklessly set alight. And even though all these idle tales burst like bubbles, the "concerts" apparently are continuing.

It is only a pity that it was the maestro Feltsman who agreed to perfrom the "solo on the pianoforte" to the overseas audience. The scandalous popularity and dubious publicity for which he is striving so much with the aid of U.S. diplomats and foreign journalists will not enhance his reputation.

Life is full of surprises. They can happen even at the U.S. Embassy and, for sure, the supreme wisdom of diplomatic representatives consists in not composing any new variations for the next "tawdry drama".

VARIOUS TV LINKUP PROGRAMS SCHEDULED FOR 1986

PM181044 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Vl. Arsenyev interview with Leonid Zolotarevskiy under the rubric "We Report Details" and the headline "Dialogue Above the Continents"]

[Excerpts] On Wednesday, 19 February on the first program you will be able to see and hear a television linkup between Leningraders and the inhabitants of the U.S. city of Seattle, Washington. At Central Television's Main Administration for Foreign Relations we were told about this dialogue through space by Leonid Zolotarevskiy.

[Zolotarevskiy] The dialogue was to a great extent unusual. This was the first television linkup between America and not Moscow but Leningrad. A television group from the United States went there. Its specialists invited people to participate in the broadcast, which was in the format of a question and answer session. Some 200 people assembled in a Leningrad Television Center studio -- workers, war veterans, students, kolkhoz members, artists, two priests came...

The moderator on our side was Vladimir Posner and on the U.S. side Phil Donahue -- a popular television commentator in his own country whose picture is published in many magazines. His manner -- as you will see -- is energetic. The Americans asked various questions -- about Soviet citizens' participation in running the state and, for example, about whether we are scared of terrorists.

[Arsenyev] About the future... What other meetings with the help of space satellites might viewers be seeing in the near future?

[Zolotarevskiy] There have been many proposals from U.S. television studios. I will mention those broadcasts that will take place. On the subjects "Business Life and International Trade" (intended for May), "Cultural Cooperation" (August-September), and "The Role of Sociopolitical Organizations in the United States and the USSR" (November-December). One other piece of news. The social organization "Physicians for Social Responsibility" came up with the initiative of holding six Leningrad-Philadelphia television linkups. There may possibly be other television linkups -- Mosfilm-Hollywood, Vancouver (Canada)-Lvov, our "Travelers' Club" and the U.S. National Geographical Society, and a dialogue between Soviet and U.S. parliamentarians...

CHALLENGER CREW VICTIMS OF IRRATIONAL HASTE

LD181853 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 18 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] The search for wreckage from the Challenger continues. We speak of the seven daring American astronauts who perished in the very first seconds of this tragic odyessy as one speaks of a legend. Now one can probably add that they fell victim not to circumstance, but to irrational haste. The heads of NASA knew about the possibility of a disaster on the Challenger craft, but nevertheless, they decided to stage the launch. This monstrous fact has been reported by CBS television.

NASA's concern in connection with the problems that arose with the synthetic seals where the solid-fuel boosters joined was concealed from the astronauts, THE HOUSTON POST has reported. It has also come to light that 1 day before the Challenger launch, specialists of the company producing solid-fuel boosters for the spacecraft unanimously demanded that the launch be delayed; they were concerned that the sleeving meant to join the parts of the rocket would not function normally in the cold weather. In the opinion of many U.S. specialists, CBS notes, the fracture of one such piece of sleeving was the cause of the disaster.

Figuratively speaking, the explosive wave brought about by this disaster continues to spread. There are reports of mass dismissals at enterprises of the U.S. companies producing solid-fuel boosters. It is not impossible, writes the Paris L'ECHO, that a real purge will begin in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as well.

U.S. BATTLESHIP IOWA SAILS FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

LD182142 Moscow TASS in English 2128 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 18 TASS -- The U.S. battleship Iowa escorted by the missile frigate John Hall left their bases on the eastern coast of the United States Tuesday morning and sailed out to sea for operations off the Pacific shores of Central America. A Pentagon spokesman refused to give any specifics on the operations, only saying that they should underscore U.S. perpetual interest in that region and back the policy pursued there by the United States. The U.S. press points out that the permanent presence of U.S. warships off Central America is, above all, in pursuit of putting pressure on the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua.

U.S. PRESS AGENCIES CENSOR GORBACHEV INTERVIEW

PM171459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by TASS correspondent M. Knyazkov for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "Using Scissors Against The Truth"; first graf is reader's letter]

[Excerpts] "The interview Comrade Gorbachev gave to the French paper L'HUMANITE aroused tremendous interest worldwide. How was it greeted in the United States?

O. Mereschencnko, Moscow Oblast."

"Frankly, I regard as hypocritical the strident campaign that aims at 'proving' that the USSR (and, by implication, socialism in general) is a society in which uniformity, official like-mindedness, and so on and so forth hold sway," CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev said in reply to L'HUMANITE's questions.

I deliberately chose this quotation. There is much to confirm it. Including the coverage of M.S. Gorbachev's interview in "the freest country in the free world." What a commotion there was among the owners of local papers on the night of 7 February when reports began to come in from the other side of the Atlantic, where the morning of a new day was already breaking, that the French paper L'HUMANITE had published a long interview with the CPSU Central Committee general secretary.

And how! What have Americans always been told about the USSR? A country where there are more jails than kindergartens, where critics of shortcomings invariably end up in Siberia, and where within the walls of the Kremlin sinister plans are being hatched to establish worldwide Soviet control.

Then an authoritative statement by the Soviet leader appears, in which he talks sincerely and objectively, without mincing words, about our gains and omissions, problems and plans for the future. He talked of the USSR's desire not only to curb the arms race, but to eliminate nuclear weapons on earth altogether. In short, the very sincerity of the pronouncements demolishes the pyramid of lies which the United States is erecting so assiduously around our country.

But the local propaganda experts' arsenal of jesuitic methods is truly inexhaustible. AP's Paris correspondent was the first to gather his wits. He brandished his scissors and -- snip, snip! -- exactly three paragraphs of answers remain. Not about the USSR's peace proposals and not about socialist democracy, of course. He told Americans, making his own cuts and insertions, only what was said about Western propaganda's "favorite child" -- Sakharov. UPI pulled more or less the same stunt.

By and large, the interview was presented to Americans in an eviscerated and simply unrecognizable form. Basically, it had felt the "ax" of the very censorship which M.S. Gorbachev had talked about and whose purpose is, in particular, to deprive ordinary Americans of access to the truth about the Soviet Union.

TALKS TO RESUME WITH JAPAN ON CULTURAL PACT

OW181259 Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union will resume talks on a cultural agreement Thursday in Tokyo, a Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday. A team of Soviet Foreign Ministry officials is due to arrive here Wednesday for talks of an unknown duration.

Working-level negotiations to conclude the cultural agreement were suspended in Moscow in early January, just before a visit to Japan by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. During the January visit, Shevardnadze and his Japanese counterpart Shintaro Abe agreed to step up efforts to come to an agreement that can be signed when Abe visits Moscow, probably later this year.

TRANSCRIPT OF SHEVARDNAZE'S TOKYO NEWS CONFERENCE

PM141127 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 5, 10 Feb 86 pp 11-13

["Transcript of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's Press Conference at the Japanese Press Club in Tokyo, January 19": "Both Sides The Gainers"]

[Text] Shevardnadze. Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to thank the leadership of the Japanese Press Club and personally Mr Arai for their kind invitation to meet you.

I must frankly say that, this being Sunday, I expected a smaller attendance at this, my first press conference on the talks that have been held. But it has worked the other way around. I was reluctant to spoil your rest day, but I believe that newsmen do not relax, not only on Sundays, but also when they sleep. After all, when journalists and diplomats take a day off, public opinion is left to its own devices. And that is hardly desirable.

I have been told that Japanese newsmen have "complained" that the Soviet side has been "regulating" the information on the talks we have had here. I think the reproach is not quite justified. First, there were press releases and public pronouncements. Sufficient material was made available for obtaining an idea of the nature of the talks and the atmosphere in which they were held. Second, as a rule, talks proceed in such a way as to make it difficult to say precisely where the discussion of one or another issue is completed, especially if it is a question of the world situation and problems relating to security. Besides, we made a point of not hurrying with conclusions before hearing out the other side and putting forward our own arguments.

Now, after three rounds of talks and unofficial conversations with Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and an interesting and meaningful meeting with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, some conclusions can be drawn.

Above all the resumption of political dialogue, which both sides firmly agreed to continue, is a positive fact in itself. It may be said that we now have a much better idea of each other's positions, moreover, on a wide range of issues. In this respect we took a step forward. The important thing is that the desire to meet each other half-way was mutual and sincere.

As you know, a message from CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev was conveyed to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone inviting him to visit the Soviet Union. Mikhail Gorbachev was similarly invited to visit your splendid country. This means that political contacts will be continued at the highest level.

The positions of the sides were brought closer together on a number of international problems, primarily regional issues and also some bilateral questions.

A joint communique the content of which I would say is good, substantive and businesslike, was agreed upon.

We regard the documents signed as being of a positive character -- the agreement on trade and payments in 1986-90 and the convention providing for exemption from dual taxation. We also prolonged the term of the exchange of letters on cultural ties and agreed to speed up talks on the conclusion of an agreement on cultural ties so as to be able to sign it when Mr Abe comes to Moscow.

An important positive aspect of our work was the reaching of agreement in principle to activate cooperation in the sphere of science and technology.

Mention must also be made to the fact that the talks proceeded in a correct, respectful manner, although they at times dealt with rather acute issues. I must also tell you in confidence that there were some heated arguments.

We proceeded from the principles of equality, equal rights, and equal concern on both sides for the strengthening of cooperation. We also spoke about improvement of our relations not being allowed to be detrimental to third countries. We went on record that the Soviet Union and Japan are not rivals when it is a matter of economic and commercial intercourse, for by virtue of their economic potentials our countries are in a sense mutually complementary.

The talks are now over and, naturally, commentaries on them have begun to appear. On the whole, the picture they give is quite objective. Nevertheless, they reveal a certain desire to establish which side was the gainer. Conjectures are built around the so called "territorial question." In my youth I dabbled a little in journalism and intuitively foresee that you are going to ask me about that question.

True enough, it was raised by the Japanese side. And we duly replied. Our stand is well known. Not long ago it was expounded, among other things, to Japanese representatives by our party and government leaders. We stressed that if we really want to improve our relations, it is essential not to lose sight of the existing realities.

As for who was the gainer, I believe that both sides gained by the talks. The only losers are those who sought to complicate them. We accomplished big, useful job of work. We now see the future of our relations in a more optimistic light, despite the complex problems that still exist. It seems to me that differences and disagreements will remain. But this should not be dramatized. We must work to improve relations between our countries step by step.

Relations between states are like relations inside a large family. They have to live together, at times in concord and sometimes in discord lasting years, if not centuries. And experience shows that discord does little good, it only spoils things. It is also a good thing that we have seriously begun to seek accord. On behalf of the Soviet side I can say that on the whole we are satisfied with the results of our talks in Tokyo.

I am also glad that the range of our contacts here was wide. My meeting with Masashi Ishibashi, Chairman of the Socialist Party, was most rewarding. I also had a comradely, serious conversation with the Chairman of the Japanese Communist Party, Kenji Miyamoto, and other leaders of that party. And today I have two more meetings scheduled with the mayors of Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

We have met official spokesmen, businessmen, workers, and teachers. But my wife had the most interesting meeting of all, with Japanese children. I had a memorable meeting with Governor Suzuki of Tokyo. We would like to thank him for his hospitality.

Our visits of the Nissan plant and the Sony scientific and technological exhibition were extremely interesting. I promised that on my foreign trips I would "boost" the output of these firms. We were greatly impressed by a performance we saw at the Kabuki theatre. It was pleasant to witness how the Japanese cherish the cultural legacy of the past, and how skillfully they organize modern production.

To return to the talks, I should like to stress that in my opinion it is important to sense whether we managed to get a rapport, whether both sides are prepared to build the edifice of their relations on the foundation laid now. I would answer this in the affirmative. Incidentally, it seems to me that the press intuitively gave a correct appraisal of the spirit and trend of our talks. This is a confirmation of your professional skill, your knowledge of the existing realities. I have acquainted myself with your appraisals during our visit and wish to say that on the whole your coverage has been objective and interesting. I know one must not spoil one's relations with the press.

I should like to dwell in greater detail on a question which occupied a central place in the meeting with Prime Minister Nakasone and the talks with Foreign Minister Abe. I am referring to the initiatives put forward by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, initiatives comprehensive in scale and truly historic in significance which open a real avenue to the elimination of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons by the end of the century. I found it noteworthy that the leaders of Japanese political parties I talked with yesterday described these initiatives as epochal.

I believe that you are well acquainted with the statement made by Gorbachev, and hence shall not go into it in detail. I only wish to stress that our proposals cover the entire range of issues relating to the limitation and elimination of armaments, primarily the nuclear and chemical. The Soviet Union's comprehensive programme directed at removing the threat of nuclear destruction by the end of the century has evoked great interest the world over and met with wide support on the part of both governments and the public.

It must be noted, however, that attempts are already being made to erode the substance of our proposals, to implant scepticism in people's minds, doubts as to the feasibility of the objective set. There are some who, while complimenting the Soviet initiative, are trying to sidetrack its discussion far off course. To begin with it is approached not as the integral, all-embracing programme it is. It may be said that the idea is to fragment it into isolated elements.

The day before yesterday we visited an auto plant and saw the conveyor in operation. In relation to our initiative it might be said that certain quarters would like to reverse the conveyor in order to dismantle the up-to-date working model of disarmament already assembled. A different "technology" is also used. An argument is started as to who was the first and it is hinted that the Soviet proposals have been borrowed from the American side. If this were so, it would seem that there should be no hitches in working out a programme for the abolition of nuclear and chemical weapons and carrying out other arms limitation measures.

Again we hear allegations that the Soviet Union is once more laying down preliminary conditions. It is insisting, you see, on the U.S. dropping the "star wars" programme. For those bent on embarking on an arms race in the most dangerous area of all - in outer space - our stand is truly an impediment.

But it is absurd to talk about doing away with nuclear weapons while developing new space strike weapons, which in no sense are less dangerous than the nuclear and are envisaged as an addition to the already existing mass destruction weapons potentials. Once we decide to disarm, armaments must be eliminated and not carried over from Earth to outer space.

A few words about verification. Mikhail Gorbachev's statement makes it clear that we are for combining all forms of verification -- through national technical means, international mechanisms, on-the-spot inspections, and access to relevant research laboratories.

We propose working out clear-cut procedures that would fully guarantee the destruction of nuclear and chemical weapons and preclude the possibility of their reappearance. The impression is that whatever forms of verification we agree to, the other side promptly thinks up new ones in order to evade any real disarmament measures.

The proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev offer a real alternative to the increasingly dangerous arms race which must be checked, and open the prospect of a more secure world for all. To this end the Soviet Union is ready for wide cooperation with all who proceed from positions of reason, good will, and awareness of their responsibility for ensuring humanity a future without wars and without armaments.

In this connection I should like to recall what the well-known Latin American writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez said about decisions taken with a sense of responsibility today -- being operative also in the 21st century. It seems to me that the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev has precisely this significance: it anticipates how and in what situation we shall enter the next century.

Assembled in this hall are representatives of the press of different countries. I would like each of you to construct a mental picture of what an uncontrolled arms race and the further sophistication of the means of destruction would spell for your countries. Think of the situation in which we all would find ourselves in the year 2000, if we are destined to see it at all. Compare your forecast with the situation that could come into being if the programme for a radical break with military rivalry advanced by Gorbachev is realized. In the final analysis we shall have to answer to coming generations.

Thank you. I am now ready to answer your questions.

YOMIURI. My question relates to the territorial problem. The joint communique has not yet been made public and we do not know its contents, nor do we know how the territorial question which interests us most, is reflected in it. From the standpoint of the Japanese people, this question is the most important, but the Soviet side maintains that either it has been resolved or does not figure at all in our relations. I should therefore like to take advantage of your visit to Japan to ask you once again what historical and legal justification is there for the four northern islands being Soviet territory?

Shevardnadze. You said that the joint communique has not yet been made public. You have not long to wait, for it will be published tonight. Judging by the Japanese press, Foreign Minister Abe has told newsmen that the Japanese side raised the territorial question at the talks and that the Soviet side stated its position. This is a problem on which we did not reach understanding. As regards the legal and historical grounds on which the Soviet position is based, here nothing has changed.

There are also other problems in our relations which are rather complicated and difficult. But despite the differences, we agreed with the leadership of your country to search for ways of deepening mutual understanding and moving step by step towards normalization of relations.

Soviet television. How do things stand as regards the projected meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and the U.S. President, and can it be understood that by his statement Comrade Gorbachev is making the problems of nuclear and chemical weapons the central issue at this meeting?

Shevardnadze. In Geneva agreement in principle was reached on continuing the Soviet-American summit meetings. The idea is that Mikhail Gorbachev will visit the U.S. and meet the President and the U.S. President will visit the Soviet Union next year. The dates have not yet been fixed. Arrangements are now being made and the dates will be announced later. We are seriously preparing for this meeting. Our most important argument is the statement by Comrade Gorbachev. Needless to say, security and disarmament will hold the central place in the Soviet leader's meeting with the U.S. President. This is how we visualize the meeting. If you consider my answer insufficiently exhaustive, we can talk about it again in Moscow.

ASAHI. Concerning the political dialogue between Japan and the Soviet Union. Japan was once visited by Mr Mikoyan. That visit evoked much interest and there was actually talk in Japan about a "Mikoyan boom." I believe that if the CPSU General Secretary paid a visit to our country, there could be a "Gorbachev boom." In my opinion top-level exchanges of visits is an effective way of improving Japanese-Soviet relations. My first question: is there a possibility that the CPSU General Secretary might visit Japan this year, before Prime Minister Nakasone visits the Soviet Union? A second question: if the summit does take place, can we Japanese expect, as a result of such a meeting, more pleasant news in regard to the territorial question than we heard from you today?

Shevardnadze. A long question, but the answer will be brief. Strictly speaking I already answered it in my statement. Mr Nakasone has been invited to visit the Soviet Union. He in his turn has invited General Secretary Gorbachev to visit Japan. Let us not anticipate events. I believe that the top leaders will decide for themselves where they will meet. I do not know exactly what Gorbachev's time schedule is, but one thing I know for sure: he is very eager to see Japan and meet the Japanese people. As regards the angle from which the "territorial problem" will be examined by the top leaders of the two countries, I would not care to go into that now. That would be in a way interference in their internal affairs. At the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Masashi Ishibashi, the Chairman of the Japanese Socialist Party, the "territorial question" was raised by the Japanese side. I assume that you know of the answer given by the Soviet side.

MAINICHI. What does the Soviet Union expect of economic cooperation with Japan? In other words, what part does economic cooperation with Japan play in the development of Soviet economy?

Shevardnadze. Most likely the Soviet Union expects exactly what Japan does from the development of bilateral economic cooperation. I have already said in my statement that we are equally interested in developing economic cooperation. And if the question is put in such a way as to suggest, say, that the Soviet Union is more interested in cooperation than Japan or vice versa, we shall not be able to achieve a serious expansion of that cooperation. We are not competitors, our economic and trade structures are mutually complementary. In this sense it is clear that both sides must be interested in developing their trade and economic ties, and this is what makes such ties useful.

So as not to return to this question let me say this. Japan can exist without the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union, too, will not perish if we do not have economic cooperation with Japan. But it is better to live together, to help each other solve the complex problems of a socio-economic and scientific and technical nature.

ASSOCIATED PRESS. My question is connected with the Soviet Union's attitude to SDI. President Reagan has often said that at present this is a matter only of research into the defensive possibilities and the object is not to create an offensive weapon. The United States is therefore, continuing research relating to defence in outer space. It is not against the U.S.S.R. conducting similar research. Why, then, should the Soviet side object to similar research in the United States?

Shevardnadze. No one prevents you from engaging in research. Mikhail Gorbachev has made this quite plain. Laboratory research is going on both in the U.S.A. and in the U.S.S.R. If you create space strike weapons we shall do the same, we shall not be found wanting. But we are proposing an altogether different concept to do away with all that hinders us now from delivering people of the fear of nuclear catastrophe, to destroy nuclear weapons, to destroy chemical weapons. What need would there be in that case for a so-called "defence system"? Against what? Against whom? What is the need of it? Why spend trillions and trillions of dollars on creating that system? The alternative we propose is this: let us cooperate in the peaceful exploration of outer space, in the peaceful exploration of Mars, and so on, for there are plenty of planets and galaxies. This is a tremendous field for exploration. And so it is quite a different programme the Soviet Union is proposing. The logic is not on your side.

I cannot reply to this question calmly because the life of humanity on Earth is at stake. SDI is not as innocuous a programme as it is depicted. It is a military programme, a programme for the militarization of outer space. Let me remind you of the philosophy propounded by U.S. President Johnson: he who dominates outer space will dominate the Earth as well. That is the secret of the "star wars" concept.

It is even sometimes said in the U.S. that the Soviet Union is ahead of the United States in scientific research, in particular in the creation of space weapons. If that is so, the American side should be even more interested in prohibiting space weaponry. A far better course would be to keep the sky and outer space clear for peaceful cooperation.

The chairman then declared the press conference closed and thanked the Soviet Foreign Minister.

U.S.-JAPANESE FIGHTER EXERCISES UNDER WAY

LD170743 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 17 TASS -- The Air Forces of Japan and the United States started exercises in the air space of the Japanese island of Shikoku today. Japanese fighter aircraft based at Nyutabaru Airbase and U.S. Air Force fighter planes from Okinawa are being involved in the exercises.

During the exercises to last till February 21, the pilots will carry out training in air combat and in hitting surface targets. The local section of the Socialist Party and trade unions staged a mass rally at the gates of Nyutabaru base in protest against the war games.

Military Ties Viewed

PM180943 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by S. Agafonov: "Forced March"]

[Text] Tokyo -- Since the beginning of the new year, the subject of American-Japanese military ties seems to have gotten a second wind.

The first specific agreement on the transfer of Japanese military technology to the United States, a meeting of representatives of the Pentagon and the Japanese National Defense Agency in Hawaii, a trip across the ocean by a Japanese group to study SDI, and an entire range of various caliber staff and troop joint exercises around the Japanese islands....

Statements concerning the prospects of military policy made recently in Washington and Tokyo are a distinctive addition to all this.

In his report to Congress, the U.S. defense secretary outlined Japan's role in the strategic scenario composed by the Pentagon. Answering a parliamentary inquiry, his Japanese colleague partly raised the veil over certain practical aspects of this scenario.

According to Kato's statement, Japan will back up by military means American naval operations beyond the bounds of Japanese territorial waters in "the event of exceptional circumstances." The chief of the National Defense Agency termed these measures "legal and not at variance with the right to self-defense as envisaged by the country's Constitition." Evaluation of this statement by the Japanese press has been unequivocal: The government is broadening the concept of the sphere of activity of "Self-Defense Forces." As ASAHI writes, this interpretation virtually means that Japanese Armed Forces can be sent to any region of the world.

The original interchange between Weinberger and Kato can hardly be called accidental. Washington and Tokyo are moving toward "a new era of allied relations" at a forced march. This question is becoming increasingly acute in Japan. Several days ago ASAHI published a letter from (Khirosi Takeda), 68 years old, and an employee in the Oita Prefecture. "The Japanese people," (Takeda) wrote,"know that war can bring nothing other than death and destruction. A renunciation of war is recorded in the Article Nine of our Constitution. Nevertheless, the Japanese Self-Defense Forces, which were formed by circumventing the Constitution, continue to build up their power and conduct constant maneuvers with U.S. troops, demonstrating their potential. Prime Minister Nakasone, where you are leading Japan? We await a clear answer."

IZVESTIYA EXAMINES JAPANESE POLITICAL SCENE

PM181148 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent S. Agafonov maiden dispatch: "Japan-86 The Situation in February ...." -- first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Excerpts] Sergey Agafonov, IZVESTIYA's own correspondent in Japan, has started work there. He is a graduate of the M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University's Faculty of Journalism. He has worked for IZVESTIYA since 1981, and is a member of the USSR Union of Journalists. We publish his reportage.

Y. Nakasone's second term in office as president of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and prime minister of Japan runs out this year. The party rules limit tenure in these positions to two 2-year periods. Consequently, Y. Nakasone will have to either resign or campaign for a revision of the rules. Meanwhile, claims to leadership positions are being made by the LDP's so-called "new leaders" -- Foreign Minister S. Abe, Finance Minister N. Takeshita, and K. Miyazawa, chairman of the LDP Executive Council.

They declared at the beginning of the year that they would not stand against Nakasone before the May meeting of leaders from the "big seven" (the United States, Britain, France, the FRG, Italy, Canada, and Japan) in Tokyo. As soon as this event is over each of them will consider himself free of all obligations and will seriously engage in "personal matters." Essentially this means that an open struggle for power will be launched within the LDP in the very near future.

All this will be affected by the elections for the upper chamber of parliament, scheduled for June. This prospect is also borne in mind by the opposition. The press is unanimous that 1986 could have a noticeable effect on the political situation in the country.

The importance of the foreign policy factor must be mentioned in particular. Recently official Tokyo has been speaking often about the need to boost Japan's international role, but the consolidation and improvement of American-Japanese relations remain the starting point in the formulation of foreign policy. There can be no argument that the United States is Japan's main partner. The point is, however, that there is no equality in this partnership. We are, of course, talking not about the trade imbalance, which is in Tokyo's favor, but about the political one, which is in Washington's. From this viewpoint, the thesis of "boosting the international role" while looking over the shoulder at the United States will not bring any glory to its originators but will rather have a boomerang effect on the government's course.

Let me cite a typical example. The local municipal council in the small town of (Dzusi), where the LDP is in the majority, is fighting against the mayor who was nominated by the town's public organizations. The problem is that barracks for U.S. servicemen are planned to be built in (Dzusi). The mayor is against this and the town council is in favor. The LDP representatives have gathered the two-thirds majority of the municipal council that is needed to dismiss the mayor. The voters in (Dzusi) responded to this by demanding that the town assembly be disbanded. The outcome of the clash will become clear in a month's time, but it is already evident that the LDP's stance does not correspond with the voters' interests.

This instance may seem to be somewhat parochial. Coupled with others, however, it indicates that the gap between the interests of the majority of Japanese people and the course of the cabinet is not closing. This does not mean that any collisions are to be expected in the near future, but there does exist a tendency for the situation to develop further and there is no reason to perceive this tendency as favoring the LDP.

It cannot be said that the authorities are unaware of this. On the contrary, the main emphasis in speeches by leaders of the ruling camp is placed precisely on Japan's "independence" in international affairs. There is no doubt that Tokyo does have opportunities to advance in this direction, and considerable opportunities at that. Broad scope for constructive actions in the world arena is also offered to the Land of the Rising Sun by the comprehensive program for ensuring peace on earth put forward by the Soviet Union 15 January. Addressing the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, emphasized: "The Soviet program for building a world without nuclear and other types of weapons by the end of this century is addressed to everyone, because no one can remain indifferent in the face of the universal threat. We also address our call to Japan."

The publication of the Soviet program for saving mankind from the threat of universal annihilation coincided with the mid-January visit to Japan by USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze. Moscow's proposals generated the broadest response in the Japanese Islands and were one of the key subjects at the Tokyo talks.

Japan's mass news media described the visit as a "turning point." Indeed, following a break of 8 years, regular consultations at the level of leaders of the two countries' foreign policy departments were resumed, and talks were held that displayed a mutal interest and desire to develop dialogue at various levels and that yielded some specific results. The visit will definitely be of positive significance for Soviet-Japanese relations.

JAPANESE UNCERTAINTY OVER SDI DISCUSSED

LD181623 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 18 Feb 86

["What Does Tokyo Want Then" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Feb (TASS) -- TASS political observer Askold Biryukov writes:

According to reports from Tokyo, Japan's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party has expressed itself in favor of Japanese companies participating in "research work" within the framework of Washington's so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative." (Fudzio), one of the leaders of this party stated at a meeting with leaders of Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs that private Japanese companies could be joining in this work, "without waiting for government will to be finally defined." Moreover, as the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI notes, Tokyo is proceeding from "concern over relations with the United States" in the run-up to the trip to Washington by Prime Minister Nakasone, the trip to Japan by Pentagon chief Weinberger and the forthcoming meeting in May of the "seven" in Tokyo. Let us note that this is not from the interests of preserving and strengthening peace, but from a "concern over relations" with Washington, which has adopted a policy of implementing the "star wars" program, at whatever cost.

In essence the decision of the ruling party predetermines the government's decision as well. Hitherto the latter has been occupying a cautious position on taking part in SDI. While in principle expressing "understanding" as regards this program of Washington's, official Tokyo has been dragging its feet on making a decision as to whether to take part in it and if it should decide to do so then in what way. As is evident, a decision was reached after the return from a trip to the United States by a second group of Japanese government experts which studied specific areas of technology in which Japan might cooperate with the United States on the SDI program. According to (Riodzi Onodera), a Foreign Ministry adviser and the leader of this group, the group "understood where the emphasis was to lie." The decision by the Japanese ruling party on taking part in SDI at a private level gave grounds for Schneider, the U.S. deputy secretary of state to say in London that having done so with the FRG the United States hopes to sign the relevant agreements with other potential SDI participants, including Japan, probably this summer.

Now Tokyo is searching for a pretext for doing this. The most "irresistable' one is not missing the boat. The same Liberal-Democratic Party has stated that it "considers it necessary to speed up scientific and technical progress by taking part in SDI." Experts in various fields assert that SDI 'research' will lead to major technological breakthroughs and Japan desperately needs to be involved in them in order not to fall behind technological progress.

But indeed, what is at stake is not only technical progress. Technological breakthroughs al come about in the course of research connected with peaceful mastering of space. SDI is a purely military venture and one which is capable of setting mankind right back, if it doesn't actually put a question mark over man's very existence.

In agreeing to take part in work on SDI, work moreover with a view to developing and testing new types of nuclear weapons, Japan is not only taking upon itself responsibility for destroying one of the conditions for strategic stability in the world. It is underminig to the very roots its own efforts, efforts being made by its representatives at the Geneva disarmament conference and in particular proposals on gradully putting an end to underground nuclear tests. We are not saying that work on SDI renders pointless the idea of concluding a treaty on complete and universal banning of nuclear tests, a ban which is favored by practically the entire international community. Japan has its chance to say its piece on the matter upon which depends the fate of this community. Is it going to make use of the chance or will it be lost once and for all?

U.S. SR-71 INTRUDES INTO DPRK AIRSPACE

LD122218 Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 TASS -- A U.S. reconnaissance plane "SR-71" intruded into the air space of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) over the country's territorial waters in the Sea of Japan to the east of the city of Kosong today, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) has reported. On the same day a similar spy plane made a flight over coastal waters off the western coast of the DPRK.

The intensification of reconnaissance flights over the DPRK's territory, KCNA points out, coincides with the start of large-scale U.S.-South Korean joint exercises "Team Spirit-86."

DRA FOREIGN MINISTER ANALYZES AFGHAN SITUATION

PM191023 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by DRA Foreign Minister Shah Mohammed Dost: "Tread of the Revolution"]

[Text] Kabul -- The victory of the national-democratic revolution in our land has led to the creation of a state of a new type -- the DRA. From the first days of the DRA's existence its foreign policy course elaborated by the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] has been aimed at creating the most favorable conditions for implementing the main goals of the April Revolution.

As defined in the PDPA program of action and the basic principles of the DRA, the republic's foreign policy sets as its main tasks the defense of the state's independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We invariably advocate halting imperialism's undeclared war. We are with those forces of the planet which are struggling for peace throughout the world, the curbing of the arms race, the prevention of nuclear catastrophe, and the attainment of universal and total disarmament.

In our foreign policy the friendly relations and all-around cooperation with the Soviet Union, the Afghan people's tested and reliable friend, and the other fraternal socialist countries occupy a special place. We view these relations as the main guarantee of the conservation of our young republic's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and its economic and social progress. The Afghan people are particularly grateful to their great northern neighbor for the timely international aid rendered to the DRA in the difficult period of our recent history when Afghanistan's very existence as a free, independent, nonaligned country was menaced.

The conservation of international peace is the most important task facing mankind. That is why we state again and again our resolute support for the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy and constructive initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race, preventing its spreading into outer space, and eliminating seats of tension in various parts of the world.

The 15 January statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is of particular importance. We are firmly convinced that the consistent implementation of its proposals will not only spare our planet from the threat of nuclear war, but will also prepare the ground for implementing man's long-standing dream of a world without wars and weapons. The statement opens up before all peoples a clear and explicit path for entering the third millennium without the threat of nuclear self-destruction. We also attach tremendous importance to the proposals contained in this historic document aimed at consolidating security on our continent, Asia.

The forces of imperialism, hegemony, and reaction have unleashed an evil undeclared war against us. The United States is primarily organizing, inspiring, and financing the criminal activity of the counterrevolutionary mercenaries who are sowing grief and death on Afghan soil. We should also cite China, which is supplying the bandits with modern, lethal weapons.

Pakistan has assumed the role of the main bridgehead of the undeclared war against the DRA. Over 100 military camps have been created here for training professional thugs, terrorists, and saboteurs who are then dispatched to Afghanistan. There are 18 camps in Iran and 8 in China. The reactionary regimes of some countries in the Persian Gulf zone are generously supplying the counterrevolution with the means for waging the criminal war.

The frenzied propaganda campaign of lies and slander which is being mounted against us by these same countries has become another aspect of the undeclared war. Suffice it to say that our foes have on five occasions increased their radio broadcasting to Afghanistan in Pushtu and Dari. The organization of anti-Afghan campaigns in the United Nations and other international organizations is one more important component of the subversive activity against the DRA. The illegal discussion of the so-called Afghan question foisted onto the UN General Assembly year after year is a characteristic example of such actions.

The DRA Government is doing everything possible for a political settlement of the situation around our country, which would be the key to peace in this region. Its 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981 statements are known to everyone. They are supported by all progressive countries and forces of the world.

As a result of our efforts and initiatives and the support from the UN secretary general, there have been six rounds of talks with Pakistan through a personal representative of the UN secretary general. The DRA Government adheres to the view that an all-embracing settlement must provide for the complete cessation of armed aggression and other forms of outside interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Impressive international guarantees should ensure that this interference is resumed in the future.

The progress which has been achieved at these talks was the result of the constructive and flexible position taken by the DRA. But under pressure from Washington, the other side is so far failing to display good will. For instance, despite the fact that the mandate of the UN secretary general and his representative presupposes the presence of both sides at the conference table, Pakistan is refusing to conduct direct talks.

Despite the intrigues of its enemeies, the April Revolution has proved its irreversibility. With the aid of our loyal friends, above all the Soviet Union, we have firmly marched forward along the path of building a new life. The Soviet Communists and fraternal Soviet people are now preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress. We are sure the congress will adopt important decisions in the interests of Soviet people's further progress and prosperity in the interests of peace and security on earth.

We wish our Soviet friends every success in their noble aspirations.

HUNGER STRIKE BY AFGHANS IN IRAN REPORTED

PM140951 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Hunger Strike Declared"]

[Text] Kabul, 12 Feb -- BAKHTAR agency has reported that the inmates of the Afghan refugee camp in Mashhad (Iran) have declared a hunger strike. The 800 refugees taking part in it, who were lured into Iran by deception, have stated they will not cease their struggle until they receive permission to leave for home.

The Iranian authorities are trying to suppress the Afghans' demonstration by force. Clashes have taken place between the "guards of the Islamic revolution" and the refugees, the agency notes. As a result three camp inmates have been killed and eight wounded. Several dozen people have been arrested and imprisoned.

MANILA DEMONSTRATION PROTESTS U.S. 'INTERFERENCE'

LD181332 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] A demonstration of protest against U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Philippines has been held in Manila in front of the U.S. Embassy. Thousands of demonstrators, whose progress was blocked by reinforced police units, chanted: Yankees go home. Observers link the action with the presence of Philip Habib, a special envoy of the U.S. President. Formally he arrived in Manila allegedly to seek reconciliation between the two antagonistic groupings. However, according to the press, in fact Washington's emissary intends to gain guarantees that American military and strategic interests in that country are secure.

SOVIET LINER SINKS OFF NEW ZEALAND; SAILOR MISSING

PM171803 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 6

[V. Shmyganovskiy article: "Emergency in the Cook Strait"]

[Text] A report has arrived from New Zealand: The Soviet liner Mikhail Lermontov has foundered and sunk off that country's coast. This happened at 1240 hours Moscow time on 16 February. All 408 passengers on board the ship were rescued.

V.S. Petukhov, chairman of the "Morpasflot" All-Union Association, said the following:

"Our ship was on a cruise off the New Zealand coast, carrying foreign passengers under contract with the British company [STS]. It suddenly ran aground at 0750 hours, while Captain V. Vorobyev and the pilot were steering it along the Cook Strait. The speed was 15 knots. The liner was holed in its bow. The captain steered for the shore. The bow trim increased and he ordered those on board to begin abandoning ship (in addition to the passengers, the ship was carrying a crew of 330. One of the Soviet seamen is still missing). All this happened during a sudden squall accompanied by rain. [punctuation as published]

The Vladivostok radio station was the first to receive the accident message: "We are abandoning ship, we are abandoning ship!"

The Soviet seamen acted with precision under the prevailing circumstances. Elderly women were evacuated first, followed by old men and all the other passengers. The captain was the last to abandon ship. We received a radiogram from Joe Collier, director of [STS] in Australia. He remarked on the crew's courage and presence of mind when rescuing the clients of this tourism firm.

"The cause of the accident and the ship's loss will be determined by a specially appointed commission," T.B. Guzhenko, USSR minister of the maritime fleet, commented. "The incident confirms again that even with all the modern equipment it is still impossible to rule out the chance of an accident situation developing at sea. [no end quotes printed]

This is the first such accident in many decades involving the Soviet cruise fleet, which enjoys an excellent reputation.

POLAND'S MESSNER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

Met by Ryzhkov, Aliyev

LD181548 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 18 TASS -- Zbigniew Messner, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, arrived here today on an official friendly visit at the Soviet Government's invitation.

At the airport he was welcomed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Geydar Aliyev and other officials.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1630 GMT on 18 February, in a similar report, adds the following:

Representatives of Moscow's working people were among the welcoming party. The state flags of the PPR and the Soviet Union were raised at the airport, and an honor guard of forces from the Moscow garrison was formed. An orchestra played the state anthems of the two countries. Comrades Ryzhkov and Messner inspected the formation of Soviet servicemen. The festive reception ceremony ended with a march-past by the honor guard.

The state flags of the two countries and banners of welcome were displayed in Moscow's streets and squares, along which the motorcade proceeded accompanied by an honorary escort of motorcyclists.]

Talks Begin

LD190743 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0723 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 19 Feb (TASS) -- Soviet-Polish talks began in the Great Kremlin Palace this morning. The talks are being conducted by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and by Zbigniew Messner, member of the Politburo of the PZPR Central Committee, chairman of the PPR Council of Ministers.

The head of the Polish Government arrived in Moscow yesterday at the invitation of the Soviet Government on an official visit of friendship.

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER BACKS GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

PM181001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by M. Orzechowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and Polish minister of foreign affairs: "The Command of the Times"]

[Text] Warsaw, Feb -- The 15 January 1986 statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which contains new Soviet disarmament proposals was a political event of the highest order.

The statement was issued at an exceptionally difficult and dangerous moment in the international situation. The negative phenomena and trends which became particularly clearly visible at the beginning of the current decade have still not been overcome. People who favor an intensification of political tension and fueling of conflicts in various parts of the world, who oppose the territorial-political order which took shape in Europe after World War II, and advocate that all kinds of "embargoes" and "sanctions" be imposed in relations between states are still active in the West.

The U.S. military-industrial complex plays a sinister role in the definition of the aims and the choice of the instruments of the capitalist states' foreign policy and in promoting the growth of the international "infrastructure of tension." It seeks to induce other NATO states -- and unfortunately frequently not without success -- to increase their military budgets and to create [sozdaniye] ever news types of weapons and weapons systems, including nuclear ones.

The plans for the militarization of space envisaged in the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" advocated by President R. Reagan seem particularly criminal. They represent an aggressive concept. Their implementation would ultimately result in a qualitatively new stage of the arms race.

The full extent of their consequences and their cost, which would go beyond purely economic considerations, are difficult even to visualize. However, it is obvious that all previous accords on arms limitation would be violated. The opportunities for concluding new agreements would lose all real basis and the crisis of confidence would deepen. This would virtually nullify all chances of improving the international situation. Thus, hopes for an arms freeze and reduction, relaxation of tension, and elimination of the threat of a universal thermonulcear war would be thwarted, and mankind would find itself on a slippery path which would be difficult to leave.

However, the conviction that the world must not embark on the road is establishing itself increasingly firmly in the people's consciousness. Opportunities to curb the dangerous trends do exist. There are forces which are showing people a different direction of the development of civilization. They are connected with socialism. A historical merit of the Soviet Union's Leninist foreign policy is that at particularly critical moments it indicates real opportunities for changing the situation. This testifies to the profoundly humane nature of the USSR's international policy. In relations between states it puts peace and the preservation of life on the planet first and foremost.

The important initiative which the Soviet leader has submitted to the international community and which aims at the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, has sprung up on precisely this fertile ground. It is the latest manifestation of the sense of tremendous responsibility for the fate of the world which is so essential today. It is an expression of the optimism which has always characterized Soviet foreign policy.

In his statement, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee rightly emphasized: "Finding effective ways of eliminating nuclear weapons is a feasible task if we tackle it without delay!"

The Soviet proposals are at the same time comprehensive and specific. They touch on all the fundamental problems of disarmament talks currently under way, bearing in mind their achievements and trends, and include key questions of space and strategic weapons, questions pertaining to medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, as well as conventional weapons, and the creation of an atmosphere of confidence.

They offer a way out of the situation on issues where progress was blocked for a long time because of the unconstructive position of the West. The Soviet Union's determination to continue the quest for ways to improve the situation is also indicated by the fact that it has decided to extend the moratorium on all nuclear explosion for another 3 months.

The USSR's proposals are a program on a historic scale, a program which offers realistic prospects and proposes specific ways of ridding mankind of the nuclear threat which hangs over it.

A 21st century without nuclear weapons is a bold aim, but given the good will of all interested states it is quite feasible. The program appeals not just to people's emotions but above all to their reason. Tt provides a clear alternative to the dubious "concepts" on which the bellicose U.S. plans on earth and in space are based.

On the one hand, there are the Soviet proposals to completely eliminate nuclear weapons, and on the other hand there is the U.S. obsession to replace them with an even more sophisticated system of space weapons. These are expressions of the diametrically different approaches to the fundamental issue of our time, the choice between war and peace. The Soviet approach provides for a real increase in international security, while the U.S. approach is based on the desire to achieve military and political superiority on the planet....

The point from which the Soviet peace initiative proceeds is the special responsibility borne by the USSR and the United States for the preservation of peace and international security. The statement also refers to, and defines, the role of other nuclear powers. The program submitted by the Soviet Union provides scope for all other states' and peoples' activity. After all, in the current complex and dangerous international situation peace and security are universal, indivisible assets to which no one can remain indifferent.

This applies particularly to Europe. This is where the watershed between the two major military and political groupings lies. Europe has been the seat of conflict more than once, but it has also acquired positive experience. And the Soviet leader bases his proposals on this experience. As the statement notes, this experience creates the preconditions for a special mission to be discharged by Europe: "This mission is the construction of a new edifice of detente."

The USSR's new proposals are firmly supported by the Warsaw Pact countries' joint peace platform. They are in keeping with the decisions adopted by the fraternal countries' top leaders and the achievements of their coordinated foreign policy as expressed in the documents of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee meeting in Sofia, and the Prague summit. Thus the Soviet program is not just a document which provides inspiration for the foreign policy activity of the fraternal states. It is, essentially, their joint program; as W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, has noted, "a suitable platform for laying the foundations for a better, secure future of the world."

We note with satisfaction that the conditions for solving many of the current problems, and in particular overcoming the impasse in the question of arms limitation and reduction, have improved lately. The meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan in Geneva created opportunities for deepening the dialogue between the two powers. We expect the United States to also avail itself of these opportunities. The Soviet peace program represents a substantial contribution in this respect.

Discussing the prospects for the development of the international situation and defining the main tasks of Polish foreign policy in 1986, the PZPR Central Committee Politburo welcomed and expressed appreciation for the important Soviet initiatives and expressed its full support for them. The Council of Ministers, and subsequently also the Polish Sejm, adopted a similar stance. This is a natural consequence of the fact that questions pertaining to peace, disarmament, and international security occupy a special place among the factors which determine Polish foreign policy, are deeply rooted in public consciousness, and enjoy the support of broad strata of the people. This approach is based, on the one hand, on the ideological foundations of our socialist system, and on the other hand on the dramatic history of our country whose experience was threatened by wars more than once. The fraternal friendship, alliance, and cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist community states guarantee Poland's sovereign and independent existence within secure borders.

Our support for the Soviet peace program is based on the conviction that its implementation would further strengthen all these values. The ideas expressed in the statement fully coincide with Poland's state interests.

The 27th CPSU Congress is due to open in a few days. It will be an event of historic importance for Soviet Communists and for the entire communist and workers movement. We are convinced that the 27th Congress will add a new vivid page to the theory and practice of socialist building. Our party will carefully study the decisions of the Soviet Communists' forum and apply them creatively in its own activity.

CLOSER SOVIET-POLISH SCIENTIFIC TIES URGED

PM180930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Deepen Integration"]

[Text] Warsaw, 15 Feb -- Addressing a meeting in Krakow devoted to the contribution of Polish science and technology to the development of the national economy, Z. Messner, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, declared that the establishment of closer ties with scientists from CEMA countries is highly important for the development of Polish science and the enhancement of its efficiency. It is necessary, he emphasized, to deepen and expand integration with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in various spheres. Under the conditions of the present economic situation in the country, he went on, we are bound to make fuller use of the achievements of science and find practical applications for every fruitful scientific idea and every design. Even though science is making a highly significant contribution to the republic's transformation, by no means everything in this sphere has been properly developed. This applies primarily to the entire planning of scientific research, the chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers stressed.

CAR BOMB EXPLODES NEAR U.S. EMBASSY IN LISBON

LD182314 Moscow TASS in English 2309 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Lisbon, February 19 TASS -- A powerful blast rocked the site of the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon. The blast was caused by the explosive device planted by unidentified persons in the boot of a car belonging to a U.S. embassy staff member, ANGOP news agency has reported. The blast caused no casualties. The Portuguese police opened an investigation into the incident.

FRENCH COMMUNISTS SEEK ASSEMBLY SESSION ON CHAD

LD180950 Moscow TASS in English 0711 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 18 TASS -- A group of Communist deputies of the National Assembly of France have demanded the convocation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the chamber of the French parliament. The Communist deputies are going to include in the agenda of the session of the commission the questions dealing with the armed interference of France in the internal affairs of Chad and the stay in France of Duvalier, former head of the dictatorial regime in Haiti. The document prepared by the Communist deputy Robert Montdargent which has been published in Paris points out that the parliamentarians representing the French Communist Party also find it necessary to discuss measures that France could take with a view to promoting the solution of the disarmament problem.

'EURO-SDI' POSSIBLE NOW, CLAIMS FRG'S WOERNER

LD171133 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Announcer-read report from the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] It is to a certain degree easier for the Americans to maneuver in Europe because they have their allies here, the North Atlantic Treaty members, and the Atlantic discipline. The Americans broke Britain first, as you know; now it is the turn of the FRG. Pressure is being exerted against that country now in terms of the SDI. And at the same time, negotiations on a sort of Euro-SDI are now being increasingly actively conducted. For instance, Manfred Woerner, FRG minister of defense, writes the following opinion: There is no need to wait for all sorts of laser miracles. An antimissile defense system could be created [sozdat], the minister considers, using the equipment and technology which is already in existence or will very soon be created. This system, Woerner writes, could be deployed regardless of the hopes that the research currently being carried out by the United States on the SDI program will yield anything new. In other words, what is being offered is a wholly American sort of logic: Instead of reducing the existing weapons, it is recommended that new weapons should be added, describing them, that is, as defensive.

Well, in the final analysis, where Europe is concerned, the Americans will apparently say this: In general, we are ready to take away our missiles, if you take away yours, but France and Britain object. They do not want to freeze their nuclear forces at the current level. Well, if one is speaking and thinking about the Americans' reply, then on the whole, they will evidently agree with us in principle at the level, so to speak, of general phrases; but on all specific points I think that they will avoid positive decisions and seek some sort of way round them. (?The motivation for such a refusal is more or less respectable), but it is unlikely that they will agree with us.

GORBACHEV INTRODUCTION TO GREEK EDITION OF WORKS

NC161710 Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek 16 Feb 86 p 5

["Text" of introduction by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the Greek edition of his speeches and articles; "carried in advance" by RIZOSPASTIS]

[Text] In acceding to a request by the "Contemporary Era" publishing house to prepare a brief introduction to this selection, I was first of all guided by the fact that Soviet citizens have deep and strong feelings for Greece and its people. Thus, by addressing myself to the Greek reader, I have a chance to express these feelings to some degree.

I also hope this book will give you an opportunity to get a feel for life today in Soviet society, to make your own assessment of our way of life, our goals, our understanding of mankind's present and future, and our ideas on the key problem of our times. How to safeguard peace and avert the danger of a new war.

We are sincere toward the world and we speak frankly about our affairs. Our primary concern is a long-term one: to significantly accelerate our country's social and economic development, and to double our productive capacity by the year 2000. We have all the necessary means to achieve this: natural wealth, a strong economic base, and rich experience from our 70 years of socialist construction. We have a clear idea of the ground we will have to cover, including all the problems, difficulties, and obstacles we will have to overcome.

The totally peaceful and creative nature of our domestic duties and plans rules out any pursuit of military supremacy and expansion, which those who are seeking exactly this have been eager to accuse us of. For us, peace is peace for all -- this, in a few words, is our creed, which Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, bequeathed to us.

During the nuclear-space age, we should all be aware of the fact that it is impossible for anyone to achieve peace and security solely for himself, solely through his own efforts, without others -- and, what is more -- at the expense of others. There must be coordination between national interests and the interests of the entire world community. It is of exceptional significance to have every rational man be fully conscious of this, and to become aware of his own personal responsibility to avert the danger of war by decisively siding against war on earth or in space. The unbridled arms race, primarily the one involving nuclear arms, which militaristic circles in the West have imposed and which they are now trying to spread to space, has brought mankind to a dangerous point.

In an attemtpt to avoid a catastrophe, the Soviet Union has launched a series of coordinated and practical initiatives on all issues concerning a halt to the arms race and the achievement of diarmament. With the strength of a healthy idea, and by setting an example of self-restraint and self-restriction, we have been trying to stop the dangerous course of international developments and to create a safer course of events. Unfortunately, no agreement has been reached on the basic and vital problem of halting the arms race and preventing its expansion into space. Thus, it is of particular importance to have reason prevail so that people may learn the art of coexistence on our planet, which is so imperative.

The Soviet Union, which devotes all its strength to the defense of world peace, acknowledges the contributions of all who are guided by similar ideals.

In addition, the Soviet Union greatly appreciates Greece's peace-loving actions in the field of foreign policy and views them as a significant factor for the consolidation of peace in the Balkans, the Middle East, Europe, and the world at large. The cause of world peace would benefit from the conversion of the Balkans into a missile-free zone.

The Soviet Union wholeheartedly supports the demand of the people of the Mediterranean basin, who ask that it be transformed into a sea of peace and cooperation.

The peace-loving and constructive proposals made by Greece, Argentina, Mexico, Sweden, India, and Tanzania have struck a positive chord in the world, for they respond to the interests of safeguarding international security.

The peoples of our two countries are linked by a long friendship, the roots of which are centuries old. Our two peoples have been together in many struggles for freedom, and today -- despite our different social systems -- there are many things that bring us close to one another. The Soviet people's antiwar aims are in accord with the activities of the Greek antiwar movement and with the European public's increasing protests against the arms race, the stockpiling of nuclear weapons in Europe, and the militarization of space.

The experience gained from the development of Soviet-Greek relations proves that the framework of our cooperation in the political, economic, cultural, scientific, and other fields is increasing and becoming wider. We would like to see the unimpeded development of this process, which is very good, and the strengthening of understanding and cooperation between our two peoples.

I wish the readers of this book and the entire Greek people peace and prosperity.

Moscow, January 1986

Mikhail Gorbachev.

BELGIAN SOCIALISTS SUPPORT USSR ARMS PROPOSALS

LD172017 Moscow TASS in English 1908 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Brussels February 17 TASS -- A session of the Bureau of the Belgian Socialist Party (French-speaking wing) here has highly evaluated the Soviet peace initiatives. The party's executive body issued a statement which says that the plan of eliminating nuclear weapons, proposed by the Soviet Union, is of great interest and opens up real opportunities for opening a dialogue. Walloon socialists received with great satisfaction the USSR's decision to extend the moratorium on nuclear tests, the document emphasizes. Moscow's recent proposals are the evidence of the Soviet side's readiness for negotiations on medium-range nuclear weapons, the statement says. The Bureau expressed the hope that the United States and its allies in NATO would give a constructive response to the Soviet initiative.

COMMENTATORS EXAMINE RECENT IRAQ-IRAN FIGHTING

Bovin Views Developments

PM151845 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Aleksandr Bovin "Political Observer's Opinion": "A Senseless War"]

[Text] Late in the evening of 10 February Iranian troops launched an offensive on the southern sector of the front. Reports from the region of hostilities are highly contradictory. By all appearances, the Iranians managed to force the Shatt al 'Arab waterway and penetrate deep into Iraqi territory. Tehran has announced that Iranian troops have seized the ports of Al-Faw and Umm Qasr, consolidated their position on Umm al Rasas island, and approached the Kuwaiti border. Baghdad decisively rejects these reports and announces that the Iranian offensive became bogged down.

In a letter to the chairman of the UN Security Council, T. 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stated: "In committing this act of aggression the Iranian regime is pursuing two strategic goals: It seeks to occupy, first, the region around the city of Basra and, second, the southern regions of Iraq located along the Iraq-Kuwait border." This act of aggression is "part of military preparations for the future, in order, if the set goals are achieved, to put the territorial integrity of the Persian Gulf countries in jeopardy and expand their own territory at their expense." Tehran, in its turn, stresses that its actions do not threaten other Arab states and that Iran's only aim is "to punish the Ba'thist Baghdad regime."

On Wednesday 12 February, a session of the "committee of seven" of the Arab League (Jordan, Iraq, the Yemen Arab Republic, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Morocco) was held in Baghdad. The committee approved a program of emergency measures to oppose the "new offensive." Arab League General Secretary Ch. Klibi called for the adoption of political and diplomatic measures with a view to "pooling the efforts of Arab and friendly countries for the sake of establishing peace, ending the war, and settling a conflict which creates a threat to the Arab nation and to international peace and security."

Meanwhile, the senseless, cruel, endless war goes on. Iraq calculates that it started on 4 September 1980, when Iranian artillery shelled Iraqi territory. Iran reckons hostilities from 22 September, when Iraqi troops crossed the border. However you calculate it, they have been fighting for nearly 5 and 1/2 years...

Why? What for? Evidently some role was played by territorial disputes, which have caused conflicts between Arabs and Persians for centuries. The latest treaty governing the line of the border between Iran and Iraq was concluded in June 1975. By all appearances the compromise achieved under pressure from the shah did not suit Iraq and on 17 September 1980 Baghdad denounced the treaty. The deterioration in relations between the two neighboring countries was influenced by Tehran's repeated, urgent calls for Iraqi's Shi'ites to rise up and overthrow the "Ba'thist regime." In any case, a million human lives -- and that is the estimate of the two sides' losses -- is too high a price, an incredibly high price, to pay for the "clarification of relations" between Baghdad and Tehran.

And every day that the new flareup of military acitivity lasts will cost thousands more lives. It was reported that Tehran radio interrupted its usual programs to call on the Iranians to give blood to "save the lives of the wounded and sick." Commenting on this appeal, Baghdad radio stated: "There is no sense in appealing for donors, since there will be no wounded. You should ask for coffins and shrouds. This time we will spare nobody."

I quote this detail so that readers can understand and sense the fever of passions, the atmosphere of cruelty which prevail on the banks of Shatt al 'Arab.

The war is not in Iran's interests or Iraq's interests. It undermines the unity of anti-imperialist forces. It has a pernicious effect on both countries' economies. Many times it has been proposed that hostilities cease on the terms of return to a status quo. Baghdad is willing. Tehran is resolutely against it.

Demchenko Comments

PM181031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko's "Observer's Opinion" under the general heading "Iran-Iraq: The Conflict Worsens"]

[Text] This war, which is now in its 6th year, is described as senseless, fratricidal, and endless. Indeed, what we have are two neighboring states, which adopt similar stances on many foreign policy questions and which are required to carry out essentially the same tasks of national development, locked in mortal combat. Its scale can be judged from the number of casualties which, according to foreign press figures, are already close to 1 million dead and wounded. The figures are perhaps on the high side, but not, judging by all accounts, by much. At the end of last year, for example, Iranian parliamentary deputy Hoseini stated that 300,000 Iranians had been killed, maimed, or reported missing in action.

And yet, despite the enormous casualties draining both peoples dry and the very large material damage caused, all efforts at mediation by international organizations and individual countries to bring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table have failed. The sides' stances have remained uncompromising. Moreover, a new outbreak of hostilities occurred a few days ago, when the Iranian Army launched its latest offensive The aim of this offensive, foreign observers think, is to cut Iraq off from the Persian Gulf and reach the Kuwaiti border.

Thus, there arises the threat of the conflict spreading still farther. It is clear that this dangerous escalation of events is not only increasing the toll of senseless deaths, but is also heating up the situation in the region and providing the Pentagon with a new argument for maintaining major naval and air forces close to the Persian Gulf.

Assessing the prevailing situation, a representative of the UN secretary general said that historical experience demonstrates the impossibility of solving by force the problems that underlie the conflict. Political means must be used. As is well known, the Soviet Union, which advocates the earliest possible end to the war, has repeatedly called for just that.

'Unprecedented Intensity'

LD181940 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 18 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Ancient civilizations have risen and been quickly destroyed in the valley between the Tigris and the Euphrates; bloody wars have flared up. Future historians will undoubtedly register the present armed conflict between Iran and Iraq as the most destructive and pointless of all of them. Battles of unprecedented intensity have now been in progress for a week between the armies of the two countries.

Both those who desire an end to the loss of life and suffering of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and those who, pouring oil on the flames, are interested in further stepping up tension in the Persian Gulf, are following these lamentable events closely. A precise picture of the situation at the front cannot be established; conflicting reports are coming in from Baghdad and Tehran.

A communique of the Iraqi military command today reports that a considerable proportion of the Iranian troops who crossed the Shatt al 'Arab, where the waters of the Tigris and the Euphrates come together, has been destroyed, that the enemy has lost the initiative and is fighting defensive battles. Iraqi troops are attacking in the direction of Al-Faw port, on the shore of the Persian Gulf and just a few kilometers from the border with Kuwait, this report says.

But then the dispatches from Tehran present diametrically opposed information. According to IRNA, the Iranian troops who have seized an operational bridgehead in the south of Iraq are continuing their offensive in the direction of that country's naval base on the Persian Gulf, Um Qasr.

One thing is clear: Fierce fighting is going on, using aviation, artillery, armored tank, and land forces. Iraqi aircraft alone have in the last 24 hours made more than 600 combat sorties on the southern part of the front. By all accounts, the Iranian command is trying to throw fresh reinforcements in to the Al-Law region, but it is stated in Baghdad, and I quote, that the noose around the enemy forces is being drawn tighter and tighter with every passing hour. Iraqi aviation is bombing river and sea crossings in order to stop the enemy from consolidating on the occupied bridgehead. Military operations have also been stepped up on other sectors of the front.

The war has flared up on the doorstep of the neighboring Arab countries of the Persian Gulf. There is increasing concern in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and other countries of the region. A few days ago Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait made a trip to Bubyan island, which is in the immediate vicinity of the zone of combat action of Iranian and Iraqi troops. Kuwait and other Persian Gulf countries have been forced to adopt emergency measures in case the theater of military operations expands.

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER TRAVELS TO MOSCOW

JN162001 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived here tonight on a short working visit to the Soviet Union. He will hold talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze tomorrow.

Tariq 'Aziz was received by Georgiy Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy minister of foreign affairs, Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and several other Foreign Ministry officials.

'Aziz' View on Talks

JN170930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0904 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Feb (INA) -- Talks were held here today between Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Eduard Shevardnadze, the USSR foreign minister.

'Aziz told INA that he briefed Shevardnadze on the Arab 8-member followup committee's decisions and plan of action aimed at prompting the UN Secretary Council and the international community to exert effective and decisive efforts to establish peace and a just settlement for the Iraq-Iran war. He also said that he informed the Soviet foreign minister of Iraq's firm readiness to defeat the unjust Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory. The talks were successful, he added. Attending the talks on the Iraqi side were Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid, the Iraqi ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Dr Riyadh al-Qaysi, ambassador at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. It was attended on the Soviet side by Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

YSP SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

GF151939 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, secretary general of the YSP [Yemen Socialist Party] Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today. He was received at the airport by Comrade Boris Mikolayevich Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and a number of Soviet officials.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTATOR DISCUSSES MIDEAST ISSUES

GF171730 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 16 Feb 86 p 20

[Interview with Konstantin Geyvandov, Izvestiya senior commentator, by AL-ANBA' correspondent in Amman Therese Haddad -- date not given]

[Text] [Haddad] How does Moscow view the Middle East issue and the Palestinian issue and the major principles which can ensure peace?

[Geyvandov] The Middle East problem is an important problem to which the Soviet Union devotes special attention. The Soviet view on this problem is similar to the Arab view. The most important principles which can ensure the achievement of just and lasting peace in the Middle East region are the complete Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their land and homeland. These two points can serve as a good basis for establishing a strong unified Arab front to settle the problem. We in the Soviet Union will play our role in supporting this just demand and in conveying it to the friends of the Soviet Union. I assure you that the Arab right will remain weak in the absence of Arab unity and unanimity. When the Arabs unite their views they will be an effective force of pressure to support their cause in the international community. I must point out that Arab-Soviet relations are not much affected by Arab-Arab differences. The Soviet Union is concerned about Arab solidarity and has exerted distinguished efforts to resolve disputes and differences in favor of the region's peoples.

[Haddad] What are the view and position of the Soviet Union on the Iraq-Iran war?

[Geyvandov] Since the beginning the Soviet Union has expressed its desire to see an end to this war by resorting to the negotiating table to resolve all disputes arising from the war. We have always affirmed that this war is in the interest of neither side. It will only lead to economic, material, and human losses and damage and will only divert the attention of Arabs from their basic issue -- the Palestine cause.

[Haddad] There are Israeli threats to Syria. What role will the Soviet Union play should a war erupt between the two sides?

[Geyvandov] The Soviet Union has offered a lot in supporting Syria, which has intimate relations with us. The Soviet Union will continue to offer its aid. However, it is not possible to guess what role the Soviet Union will play in case Syria is subjected to an Israeli attack. It is premature to talk about this.

[Haddad] Some Arabian Gulf countries have recently established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. There is information that some other Gulf countries will establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in the future. What is your comment?

[Geyvandov] It is quite normal that the Soviet Union and some Gulf countries establish relations. We are interested in having friendship relations with all Arab countries without exception. The Soviet Union has always backed the Arab issues on the basis of its belief that these are just issues. Moreover, the Soviet Union's relations with friendly countries are always governed by mutual respect, noninterference in the local affairs of other countries, and equality.

[Haddad] Recent incidents in Aden were a shock to the socialist bloc in general and to the Soviet Union in particular. The incidents took place among comrades in arms and among members of the party. How does Moscow view these incidents?

[Geyvandov] What happened in Aden was a shock to the Soviet Union and is a part of attempts to cause problems in the Arab arena by Israel. We know that the Arab-Israeli struggle which began 40 years ago is still governing many equations in the region. Israel and the United States are insisting on dragging the region into internal disputes to divert its attention from the basic and major role represented in the confrontation of the Israeli aggression. The Iraq-Iran war, the bloody incidents in Lebanon, and other regional battles which take place from time to time are merely conflicts designed to divert the attention of Arabs from their major issue. The Aden incidents are internal incidents and on this basis the Soviet Union warned against interfering in the local affairs of Aden. I think that the Arab differences and the incidents in the Middle East have great influence on what is going on in Aden.

[Haddad] There is tension in the Arab Maghreb between Libya and the United States. The situation may explode and military clashes may occur between the two sides at any time. What will your position be if this happens?

[Geyvandov] The Soviet Union has strongly denounced the media, political, and economic crusade launched by the U.S. Administration against Libya. It has also recently warned the United States against military interference in Libya and described the U.S. military demonstration opposite the Libyan coasts as organized terrorism and muscle flexing against an independent and sovereign state.

[Haddad] Some world news agencies have reported that Moscow is considering establishing diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity. Is this true?

[Geyvandov] The Soviet position has not changed and will not change so long as the Israelis are occupying Arab territories. This position is known to the Americans, the Israelis, and to the whole world. So long as things remain unchanged, the Soviet position will also remain unchanged.

HAITI BLOCKS RETURN, DEPORTS MOST EMIGRES

LD190946 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 19 TASS -- The pro-Duvalier military-civilian council of Haiti is not going to give permission to a free return to the country of hundreds of thousands of emigres who fled Haiti during the dictatorial rule. The new minister of justice said in an interview with the newspaper LE MATIN published in Port-au-Prince that only those would be able to return to the country who were issued an entry visa. According to the local press, the police and immigration authorities continue to deport from Haiti the people who returned home without a special permission. Political observers point out that these practices are evidence of the intention of the authorities to block the return to Haiti of political opposition figures.

NICARAGUA PROTESTS U.S. TROOP MOVEMENTS

LD151026 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Managua, February 15 TASS -- The decision by the Pentagon to move about 200 U.S. servicemen to the northern border zone of Costa Rica under the pretext of building civilian facilities is evidence of the United States' total disregard for the peace efforts by Latin American states, says a message by Nicaragua's Foreign Ministry. The document addressed to the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group countries says that in defiance of the calls by the Contadora Group for building mutual trust among Central American states and creating an auspicious climate for peaceful talks, the U.S. Administration tries to obstruct the normalization of relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

The new militarist action by the United States constitutes a brazen challenge to the Contadora Group, Jose Leon Talavera, deputy foreign minister of Nicaragua, said in an interview with the newspaper BARRICADA. He said that the United States is eager to bring to naught the efforts by Nicaragua and Costa Rica to foster bilateral ties disrupted as a result of the provocative actions by CIA mercenaries in the area of the border shared by them. The latest measures taken by the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica with a view to normalizing relations are a major step in the cause of settling the situation in Central America and exposing the policy of the Reagan Administration as the sole cause of the aggravation of the regional crisis, Talavera underlined. The deputy foreign minister confirmed full support by the republic's government for the idea of setting up a special commission of the Contadora Group to establish control over the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border zone.

IZVESTIYA PROFILES NEW COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT

PM181512 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

["Who's Who: Oscar Arias Sanchez" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Excerpts] Oscar Arias Sanchez, presidential candidate of the ruling National Liberation Party, was victorious in the general elections held in the Republic of Costa Rica. O. Arias Sanchez advocates the continuation of the former government's economic and political line. The new president of the republic declared at a press conference for foreign journalists immediately after the elections that in the foreign policy sphere he would adhere to the principles of respect for the peoples' right to self-determination, noninterference in other countries' internal affairs, and the peaceful solution of the conflict in Central America. He also noted that he intends to hold talks on changing the repayment conditions for the external debt, which exceeds 4 billion dollars, and on establishing relations with the IMF which would not hinder the country's social development.

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SOVIET UNION

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

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Slyunkov Report to Belorussian CP Congress

PM161200 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 pp 2-4

[Report delivered to the 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress in Minsk on 30 January by N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee: "Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Accountability Report to 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress"]

[Text] Comrades! The period under review was filled with intensive labor by the party and people. Following the 26th CPSU Congress' course, our motherland has made substantial progress along the path of communist building. New heights have been scaled in developing the economy and culture. Working people's prosperity has increased, and their spiritual life has been enriched. The Soviet Union's defense might has strengthened. The friendship of the USSR's fraternal peoples has strengthened, and their ideological-political unity and cohesion around the Leninist party have become even more unbreakable. The Land of the Soviets' prestige in the international arena has risen even higher.

The leading and directing role of the Communist Party as the nucleus of our society's political system has grown. The CPSU Central Committee April and October (1985) Plenums filled the forms and methods of its multifaceted activity with new content. They advanced and substantiated the concept of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and achieving on this basis the qualitative transformation of all aspects of Soviet society's life.

The drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program, the amendments to the CPSU Statutes, and the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through the Year 2000 were most important documents which enriched Marxist-Leninist theory, the strategy and tactics of communist building, and the foreign policy activity of the Soviet state.

The draft new edition of the CPSU Program — a document of tremendous theoretical and political significance — contains a Marxist-Leninist assessment of the modern age and provides an in-depth analysis of the trends and characteristics of world development. It reveals our society's historic achievements and socialism's indisputable socioeconomic, political, ideological, and moral advantages.

The CPSU Program in its current edition is, in Lenin's words, "a concise, clear, and precise statement of **everything for which the party is striving and struggling**." (V.I. Lenin. *Complete Collected Works*, Vol 7 p 166) As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, it is a program for the systematic and comprehensive improvement of socialism and for further progress by Soviet society toward communism on the basis of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. It is a program of struggle for peace and social progress and an expression of the working people's most radiant ideals and aspirations of which mankind's best minds have dreamed for centuries.

The 27th CPSU Congress' adoption of the new edition of the party Program will be a very major historical landmark marking a new page in Soviet society's life and its onward progress toward the cherished goal — communism.

The CPSU Program is a party document. But the party's links with the masses are so strong and their unity is so unbreakable and monolithic that the party's cause has always been, remains, and always will be a truly nationwide cause. This is why Soviet people ardently approve and wholly support the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy. This is why they firmly and unanimously state: Everything that the party has planned will be fulfilled.

I. Increasing Production in Every Way by Relying on What Has Been Achieved and Accelerating Scientific and Technical Progress

1. The Results of the Republic Party Organization's Work To Implement the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions Form a Firm Foundation for the Belorussian Economy To Scale New Heights

Comrades! During the period under review, the efforts of Communists and all of Belorussia's working people were concentrated on implementing the program for the country's socioeconomic development formulated by the 26th CPSU Congress.

It is well known that the 11th 5-Year Plan turned out to be difficult in both the country and the republic. During the first 2 years our average annual economic development rates were lower than those envisaged for the 5-year plan period. Industry, agriculture, trade, and consumer services for the population lagged behind. There were various reasons, but the main ones were the lack of a persistent and consistent struggle to fulfill targets and shortcomings in work to mobilize people to implement what had been planned.

On the basis of in-depth analysis, the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo uncovered in a principled and bold fashion the objective and subjective factors retarding progress and adopted resolute measures to rectify the situation. The party adopted a course aimed at developing initiative and a creative approach and at increasing responsibility and strengthening discipline and order.

The republic's Communists and working people supported this course through actions. In addition to organizational and political measures to fulfill the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee formulated and implemented a number of measures to improve the style and methods of activity of party committees, soviet and economic organs, and social organizations. A severe assessment was made of those who were slow to restructure their work, rested on their laurels, and could not be bothered to seek new solutions and unused reserves. Our cadres underwent a good schooling in the systems approach to matters and the mobilization of people and acquired experience of leadership and management under present-day conditions. All this helped to increase people's activeness, accelerate economic development rates, improve the moral and psychological climate, and spur collectives to work more intensively and fulfill the 5-year plan for the main indicators.

The gross social product increased by 26.5 percent and national income by 32.5 percent as against a target of 23.3 percent. The average annual rate of national income growth totaled 5.8 percent as against 5.1 percent in the previous 5-year plan. Social labor productivity increased 30 percent. The materials-intensiveness of the gross social product fell 3.4 percent. Industrial workers coped with their 5-year plan targets ahead of schedule. The volume of production increased by 29.6 percent and labor productivity by 21.4 percent. An appreciable change for the better was observed in capital construction. The 5-year plan was fulfilled. Some 25 percent more fixed capital was commissioned than during the previous 5-year period. The time taken to erect installations was reduced by 20 percent.

Positive changes are occurring in the agrarian sector of the economy, although the results here are more modest. The last 3 years were a turning point, with milk production increasing by an average of 232,000 metric tons and meat production by an average of 83,000 metric tons every year. The plans for the sale of all basic types of agricultural products to the state were fulfilled during these years. For most of these products the arrears which had built up at the beginning of the 5-year plan were eliminated or reduced. In terms of milk purchases the republic reached the Food Program targets; it also got close to them for meat procurements.

The Belorussian Communist Party's attention is constantly centered on questions of increasing people's living standards. Per capita real incomes increased 12 percent. Worker and employee wages increased by 15 percent and kolkhoz members' earnings by more than 50 percent. Appropriations for medical assistance, the payment of pensions, allowances, and additional benefits for the disabled and war veterans, and pension provision for kolkhoz members improved. Social consumption funds grew by 26 percent, totaling R508 per inhabitant of the republic. The provision of food and industrial products for the population improved. The volume of retail trade turnover increased by 18.3 percent and consumer service sales by 43.7 percent. More than 23 million square meters of housing was commissioned. Every fifth inhabitant of Belorussia improved his housing conditions. Education, public health, and culture developed further.

The factors behind the successes achieved by Soviet Belorussia during the last 5-year plan include the selfless labor of workers, kolkhoz members, and the intelligentsia and the multifaceted activity of party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and all our cadres. These successes are also the result of consistent implementation of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy and its constant concern for the harmonious development of all the fraternal republics.

People grow and the ranks of production front-runners and innovators increase in heroic and inspired labor. As always, the Communists lead the way. And this is natural. Being a Communist means first and foremost placing the socialist motherland's interests above everything and setting an example of a creative attitude, discipline, and a high degree of organization.

The very best of the republic's Communists have been elected delegates to our party congress. They include: Yevgeniy Ivanovich Klimchenko, leader of a team of machine tool operators at the V.I. Lenin Minsk tractor plant association, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and Hero of Socialist Labor; Vladimir Vasilyevich Serookiy, tunneling combine operator at the "Beloruskalliy" association and Belorussian Supreme Soviet deputy; Nina Ivanovna Denisenko, weaver at the Mogilev ribbon factory; Leonid Afanasyevich Tozik, leader of an integrated team at the "Minskpromstroy" association and Hero of Socialist Labor; Vasiliy Ilyich Gornak, leader of a team of drivers at Gomel's No 1 motor vehicle combine and USSR State Prize winner; Svetlana Mikhaylovna Dmitrenko, worker at Vitebsk's "Krasnyy Oktyabr" footwear factory; Lidiya Dmitriyevna Bryzga, milking machine operator at Brestskiy Rayon's "Pamyat Ilyicha" kolkhoz-combine, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, and Hero of Socialist labor; Ivan Grigoryevich Sinitskiy, team leader at Lyubanskiy Rayon's Zagalskiy sovkhoz, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and full holder of the Order of Labor Glory; Anna Semenovna Shchetko, cattle fattening operative at Stolbtsovskiy Rayon's "Krasnyy Oktyabr" kolkhoz and Hero of Socialist Labor; Ivan Ivanovich Kurovskiy, tractor driver at Voronovskiy Rayon's "Pogorodno" experimental base and full holder of the Order of Labor Glory; Lidiya Mikhaylovna Dimenkova, senior sales clerk at Mogilev's No 4 City Food Trade Organization; Lyubov Vladimirovna Khotyleva, director of the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, meritorious figure of science of the republic, and academician of the Belorussian Academy of Sciences; Alla Petrovna Ogarkova, teacher at Kamenetskiy Rayon's Vysokoye secondary school and meritorious teacher of the Belorussian SSR; and many, many others.

Allow me, comrades, to express heartfelt gratitude and recognition on behalf of our congress to all who, sparing neither effort nor energy, are making a worthy contribution through conscientious labor to augmenting the motherland's economic and spiritual potential.

The last 5-year plan provided many examples of how it is necessary to work in order to achieve high results for the least expenditure. It revealed more fully our opportunities and reserves and ways to utilize them. The republic party organization was enriched with experience of leadership of the economy under the new conditions. At the same time our shortcomings stood out in sharp relief.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau and the Belorussian Council of Ministers failed to secure the achievement by the republic's national economy of a qualitatively new scientific, technical, and organizational-economic level. The republic failed to achieve a decisive improvement in intensifying production and increasing its efficiency.

The resources invested in economic development are yielding a low return. Labor productivity growth rates are lagging behind the rates of growth of the capital-labor ratio. The Belorussian Council of Ministers and Gosplan did not analyze fixed capital utilization in depth for a long time and failed to adopt effective measures to improve the situation. A system which would spur enterprise and sector leaders on a plan basis to increase the return on capital was not elaborated. When elaborating annual and 5-year plans the Gosplan fails to coordinate the allocation of resources and establishment of new capacities with the utilization of already-existing capacities. It must become an immutable rule that capital investments should be allocated for new construction only if the potential of existing capital has been fully utilized, including by reconstruction and modernization.

In industry 5-7 percent of enterprises and associations failed every year to cope with their output sales and labor productivity plans, and 1 in almost every 6 violated contract discipline. Only 50 percent of labor productivity growth is attributable to scientific and technical measures. The technical standard and quality of many products is low. The Food Program targets for the production and sale to the state of meat, milk, potatoes, flax, and sugar beet were not fulfilled. In construction the time taken to install projects exceeds the normative time by an average of 50 percent.

Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee secretaries and I as first secretary are largely to blame here. The Central Committee Bureau, Secretariat, and departments failed to get all oblast, city, rayon, and primary party organizations to restructure their work style and methods and were unable to concentrate their efforts fully on the leading avenues of intensification of the economy — the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the reconstruction and retooling of production, the modification of investment policy, and the resolution of social questions.

The correct conclusions will have to be drawn and the necessary lessons learned from the shortcomings which have been allowed to occur. The style and methods of organizational and ideological education work, management of the economy and social development, and economic management practice must be brought into line with the party's demands. And this restructuring must begin with the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian Council of Ministers leadership, their departments and apparatus, and the leaders of the republic's ministries and departments.

A special role in implementing the party's economic strategy is assigned to the current 5-year plan and the year 1986. They must become turning points. We must ensure the transition of the republic's national economy to the tracks of intensive development. During the 5-year plan it is planned to increase industrial output by 22-25 percent and ensure the preferential development of the sectors determining scientific and technical progress — machine building, instrument making, and the radio engineering, electronics, and electrical engineering industries.

Our plans in agriculture are geared to the unconditional fulfillment of the Food Program. Average annual gross output is to increase 12-14 percent. By the end of the 5-year plan, it is envisaged that 1.2-1.3 million metric tons of meat (slaughter weight) and 7.1-7.3 million metric tons of milk will be obtained. The grain crop must be increased to 8-8.2 million metric tons.

The entire increase in industrial and agricultural output, transport shipments, and construction work is to be obtained by increasing labor productivity.

2. The Acceleration of Scientific and Technical Progress Is the Key Problem

Comrades! The cardinal acceleration of scientific and technical progress is the fundamental question of the party's economic strategy. In recent years the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have adopted important decisions to encourage creative activity on the part of scientists and engineering and technical workers and to strengthen the link between science and practical work.

The program of our actions in this area was determined by the republic party economic aktiv meeting on the results of the June (1985) CPSU Central Committee conference.

The republic possesses a solid scientific potential. Many collectives are solving scientific and technical problems at the level of world achievements and have to their credit developments capable of substantially raising production efficiency and product quality. Approximately 1,000 new types of machines, equipment, and instruments were created, and production of more than 1,700 types of products was started up. Great opportunities are being opened up by research into biotechnology and genetic engineering, microelectronics, and the widespread introduction of robot and microprocessor technology.

The utilization of scientific ideas and applied developments in creating the latest equipment and technology depends decisively on the practical zeal of ministries, departments, and association and enterprise leaders and specialists. They must be more vigorous in eliminating the factors retarding the large-scale introduction of scientific and technical achievements and progressive experience. Manifestations of irresponsibility and red tape must receive a strict party assessment. Boldness of thought and intolerance of routine and stagnation must become the immutable norm.

In critically assessing science's link with production, it should be acknowledged that scientific establishments are lax in taking account of the requests and requirements of leading sectors of the republic's economy. The prime culprits here are Belorussian Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman Comrade Kritskiy, the Gosplan, and Belorussian Academy of Sciences President Comrade N.A. Borisevich.

It is necessary to impart a great technical and technological thrust to fundamental research and applied development work, narrow the gap between the topics covered in this field and the solution of the most important regional problems, and coordinate them more closely with the specifics of the development of priority sectors, primarily machine building, radio-electronics, and the chemical and petrochemical industry. It is from precisely these positions that the Gosplan and Belorussian Academy of Sciences Presidium must approach the shaping of scientific research plans. In the current 5-year plan period it is necessary to double the volume of work carried out by academy institutes for the needs of the republic's national economy.

It is very important to enhance the Belorussian Academy of Sciences' coordinating role; ensure the harmonious joint activity of academy, VUZ, and plant-level science; eliminate parallelism and duplication in their work; and eradicate departmental barriers. Science must not only offer the national economy individual innovations but also must actively promote the fundamental retooling of production. It must determine — dictate, if you like — the technical standard of production and be as responsible as sectors for its correspondence to current requirements.

This task must be resolved through the joint efforts of scientists and practical workers. Science must resolutely address production's needs and vice versa. The first steps have been taken. The "Intensification" comprehensive republic program has been elaborated and approved by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. The successful implementation of this, and likewise of other most-important national economic programs, is a reliable guarantee of fulfilling the 5-year plan. A systems approach and effective party control are required here.

It is necessary to make more active use of proven forms for integrating science with production and at the same time to seek new ones taking account of regional characteristics and conditions. An important step could be the creation, on the basis of leading academy technical institutes, of scientific and technical complexes and associations with an "institute-design bureau-experimental production facility-experimental plant" structure, engineering centers, and also temporary creative collectives.

The network of science-and-production associations must be expanded. Their effectiveness has been confirmed by practical experience. In the "Planar" science-and-production association, development and assimilation of the most complex equipment takes 12-18 months. In 10 years the productivity of the equipment it produces has increased between 5 and 6 times, its precision has increased 3 times, and 25-30 percent of the product range has been renewed every year.

However, we have only 27 science-and-production associations. And only four of them have been formed on the basis of scientific research institutes and union-level ministries' design bureaus and enterprises. The republic government should accelerate the examination of existing proposals and display more persistence in implementing them. The main need is not purely formal association beneath a single signboard as a gesture to fashion, but an effective merging of the efforts of equipment development workers and manufacturers and a reduction in the time taken for scientific ideas to get from laboratory to production shop.

Sector science must become a real implementor of scientific and technical progress. As yet it is not always based on leading scientific ideas or the results of fundamental research and does not give specific orders for development projects linked with sectors' development prospects. Cadre staffing is also poor. The number of doctors of science here is 50-75 percent lower than in academy institutes and VUZes. The plant-level sector of science also requires considerable reinforcement with cadres.

The correct thing would be for the republic government to organize the certification of sector scientific research, planning, and design and technological organizations and, where expedient, to merge small scientific research institutes, design bureaus, subsidiaries, and departments and incorporate them into science-and-production and production associations.

Sector scientific research laboratories or the dual-jurisdiction laboratories being created in the VUZ and academy system are called upon to become a more fruitful link in the "science and production" chain. They are the logical continuation of plant-level science, as it were, while remaining the plenipotentiary representative of academy or VUZ science in production.

The experimental base of scientific establishments and VUZes must be substantially strengthened. In the current 5-year plan period a considerable proportion of the capital investments allocated for the construction of scientific facilities must be channeled into these objectives.

The role of engineering and technical personnel and workers in accelerating scientific and technical progress must be increased. Effective proposals from them do not always meet with support. Recent years have seen a decline in the effectiveness of invention and rationalization work at enterprises of the Belorussian Ministry of Industrial Construction, Ministry of Communications, and Ministry of the Fuel Industry. In Minsk Oblast, for example, almost one proposal in every six remains unintroduced. This is not good management.

Party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and economic organs must improve the activity of scientific and technical society and the All-Union Inventors and Rationalizers Society organizations, improve the scientific and technical information system, develop in every working person an aspiration to participate in improving equipment and technology, and enlist young men and women in this more actively. There is now an urgent need to create in the republic a comprehensive system of work to develop the scientific and technical creativity of young people.

Questions linked with accelerating scientific and technical progress and galvanizing the activity of all its components must be key matters in the work of party committees and organizations. More vigorous and persistent efforts are needed from the Central Committee Bureau and republic Council of Ministers, secretaries and all sections of the Belorussian Communist Party, and Belorussian Council of Ministers deputy chairmen.

3. Intensive Development for the Republic's Industry

Comrades! The republic's industrial workers are persistently seeking effective ways to resolve the tasks set by the party. It is important to consolidate our cadres' keenness for the dynamic development of industry and ensure high and stable average rates of industrial growth. In terms of both production volume and labor productivity, these rates must total approximately 5 percent in the current 5-year plan. This requires a resolute turnabout in the direction of production intensification.

The main avenue is steady labor productivity growth on the basis of the comprehensive mechanization and automation of technological processes, the widespread application of industrial robots and manipulators, the creation of flexible production systems, the introduction of labor- and resource-saving technologies, and the acceleration of enterprise retooling.

A leading role belongs to machine building, which accounts for a large proportion of the republic's industry. In the current 5-year plan it is necessary not only to increase machine building and metal working output by 45-50 percent but also to make the transition to the mass manufacture of new generations of equipment capable of securing a manifold increase in labor productivity. This work will require the restructuring of the work of scientific establishments, design bureaus, production collectives, and party, soviet, and economic organs.

The CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum moved questions of raising the technical standard and quality of output to the forefront of our practical activity. In present-day conditions it is important not only to do more but, most importantly, to do it better and achieve the best world level of quality. This is a task of tremendous economic and political significance.

The negative trend toward a decline in the production of products in the top-quality category observed in the republic at the beginning of the 5-year plan was overcome through the efforts of party, soviet, and economic organs. Production of such products increased and accounted for 26.4 percent of total production in 1985. The technical parameters of many products improved.

In this respect the collectives of the "Integral" association, the Krasnyy Borets plant in Orsha, the semiconductor power rectifier plant in Molodechno, the Strommash plant in Mogilev, the Krasnyy Pishchevik confectionery factory in Bobruysk, and others deserve a positive assessment.

However, the low quality and technical and esthetic standard of many products remains one of the weak spots in our economy and the cause of the retardation of rates of technical progress and of many difficulties in production and everyday life. Only one-third of the republic's enterprises produce output in the top-quality category. An effective quality control and product certification system has not been organized at many plants and associations. Only 12 percent of new products put into production in the last 5-year plan period received the Seal of Quality. Production of machines which went into production more than 10 years ago is growing at enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, and Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances.

The combines produced by Gomselmash are heavy, unreliable, and difficult to operate. Let me say bluntly: The association's engineering services and General Director Comrade N.I. Afanasyev have not coped with the problem of improving these machines' technical standard and quality. The Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production also deserves serious criticism. The attention of the Gomel Obkom and Gorkom Bureaus, the Zheleznodorozhnyy Raykom in Gomel, and the association party committee was not centered on these questions. The influence of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Agricultural Machine Building Department (former department chief Comrade A.B. Zuyev) on improving the technical standard and quality of machines and mechanisms was poor.

Other central committee departments, obkoms, many Belorussian Communist Party gorkoms and raykoms, and enterprise party organizations are not actively enough concerning themselves with this most important question.

The CPSU Central Committee has set the following task: A sharp breakthrough in solving this problem must be effected in the 12th 5-Year Plan. Labor collectives must become the center of the struggle for quality. In every one of them it is important to uncover all opportunities and reserves and determine specific ways to utilize them. This will require new approaches. The human factor, scientific and technical progress, production itself, economic measures, and the improvement of the economic mechanism must all be set in motion here.

But it is necessary to start by imposing exemplary order in all sectors of work and changing people's attitude to their obligations. Excellently done work increases our common wealth, whereas, by contrast, poor and unconscientious work reduces it. We are all both manufacturers and consumers of products, and the circle of unprincipledness in assessing work results must be broken in the interests of everybody. The worker's conscience must become the controller of quality. The creation of conditions for high-quality labor is the primary obligation of enterprise leaders, specialists, foremen, and all organizers of production.

The improvement of quality is a party matter, a state matter, a nationwide matter. Product quality must determine the level of all our work; the level of organization and management, discipline and responsibility, and overall culture; and the pace of scientific and technical progress.

On the basis of existing experience, in the very near future the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian Council of Ministers, ministries and departments, and party obkoms and gorkoms should elaborate a precise quality control mechanism and create a harmonious and effective system for the work of party, soviet, and economic organs at enterprises and in sectors, rayons, cities, oblasts, and the republic.

A substantial increase in party influence on intensifying the policy of thrift and ensuring the rational utilization of all types of resources is required. It is a question of observing the immutable economic management practice which socialist ownership presupposes. Its essence involves displaying a solicitous attitude to nationwide property and vigorously augmenting it.

Thrifty management has still not become the rule in the work of many ministries, departments, and enterprises.

The slow decline in the materials-intensiveness of output is explained primarily by insufficiently active implementation of materials-saving measures. The Belorussian Council of Ministers should create in the very near future a unified system for planning, recording, and analyzing resource expenditures. It must be a nondepartmental system and operate at every enterprise and in every sector, every region, and the republic as a whole. It is necessary to determine precisely which organ and which department will be responsible for a given avenue of the work to make rational use of resources and reduce materials-intensiveness.

It is necessary to ensure the implementation of the measures we have elaborated for the rational utilization of secondary resources and to achieve by the end of the 5-year plan period the practically total processing of waste within the system of the Belorussian SSR Ministries of the Timber and Wood Processing

Industry, the Forestry Industry, and Light Industry, and the 90-95 percent processing of waste at chemical and petrochemical industry enterprises. It is important to bring secondary fuel and energy resources more actively into economic circulation, and also to make extensive use of the experience of the "Polimir," "Novopolotsknefteorgsintez," and "Azot" associations and the Minsk gear and tractor plants.

The intensification of production cannot be accelerated without updating the productive [aktivnyy] part of fixed assets and developing our own base for machine tool building and means of mechanization for this purpose. This is precisely what is being done at Vitebsk's "Monolit" association, the Minsk motor vehicle, clock and watch, and bearing plants, and some other enterprises.

Virtually all enterprises must participate in the elaboration and manufacture of means of mechanization and automation and specialized technological equipment. Active work instead of waiting — this is what is demanded today from every production collective and every leader. Specific tasks for this purpose have been set for ministries, enterprises, and associations in the recently adopted Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers resolution on machine building.

Certification of the organizational and technical standard of production has been carried out in the republic on the initiative of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. Measures have been elaborated for reequipping enterprises and reducing manual labor from 28 to 22 percent. Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee departments, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, ministries and departments, and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must strictly monitor their implementation.

While ensuring that the total growth of industrial output results from increased labor productivity, it is very important, in parallel with the technical modernization of production, to persistently improve labor organization and norm-setting and the training and retraining of cadres.

Practice confirms that success in the solution of tasks in economic and cultural building depends on the competence and specific attitudes of leadership and the style of party leadership of all aspects of labor collectives' vital work. The Minsk city party organization has accumulated positive experience in this work. Last year the city's industry ensured the entire growth of production output — which, incidentally, was quite high (7 percent) — while reducing the amount of manpower and not increasing the consumption of rolled metals. It must be ensured that everything valuable from the Minsk workers' practice is widely disseminated.

More intensive use must be made of production potential. The normative deadline for starting up capacities is not observed in virtually every second project scheduled for commissioning in the republic. About 60 percent of production units produce less output than envisaged in the design plans. We have the potential to raise the equipment shift index to 1.6-1.7 by the end of the 5-year plan.

Organizational and political education work must be subordinated to the implementation of tasks of increasing industrial production efficiency and the moral and material levers, financial autonomy incentives, and socialist competition must become fully operational.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, its departments, Central Committee Secretary Comrade V.A. Lepeshkin, the republic government, and Comrade A.A. Petrov, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers, must define new approaches toward the leadership of industry. These approaches must be mastered primarily by party, soviet, and economic workers. When evaluating their businesslike qualities we must take into account not only the fulfillment of plan indicators but also the efficiency of the utilization of fixed assets, all types of resources, and work time, and the extent to which technical standards and output quality match the best world examples.

4. Augmenting the Contribution to the Food Program's Implementation

Comrades! During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee directed the efforts of party committees, primary party organizations, soviet and economic organs, and all rural working people toward the Food Program's implementation.

The sum of capital investments channeled into the development of agriculture during the 11th 5-Year Plan was R9.7 billion, which was 16 percent more than during the 10th 5-Year Plan. The capital-labor ratio increased 1.5 times, the availability of capital on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 40 percent, and power availability per worker on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 46 percent. The quantity of mineral fertilizers applied per hectare of field area increased by 14 percent. The level of mechanization in crop farming and stockraising rose.

The conditions of rural working people's labor and daily life have improved, and the volume of construction of housing and other social projects has increased. Expenditure for these purposes amounted to R2 billion, which is 73 percent more than in the previous 5-year plan period. The volume of consumer services increased by 47 percent.

Nevertheless, a comparison of achievements against the funds that were invested shows that the results do not match expenditures. Even though the return on investments increased somewhat during the last 5-year plan period, we cannot be satisfied with the pace of development in agricultural production. The average annual volume of gross output increased by only 8.3 percent; grain production comprised 89 percent of the planned figure, while potato and meat production comprised 92 percent and milk production 95 percent. The 5-year plan for sales to the state was underfulfilled by 69,000 metric tons of potatoes, 390,000 metric tons of meat, and 64,000 metric tons of milk.

This lag can be explained by shortcomings in the work not only of oblast, rayon, and farm cadres, but also of the leadership of the republic Council of Ministers, its apparatus, and Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee departments. They did not always take prompt measures to accelerate the intensification of production, the improvement of management, and the amelioration of the activity of ministries and departments.

By no means all oblasts produce the same results in their work. Grodno Oblast (Obkom First Secretary Comrade L.G. Kletskov) made more efficient use of material and labor resources during the last 5-year plan period. Its party organization has instituted more effective forms and methods for mobilizing people to raise crop farming standards and intensify stockraising. The oblast fulfilled its 5-year plan for the sale of all types of output to the state, with the exception of livestock and poultry.

The Brest Oblast party organization (Obkom First Secretary Comrade Ye.Ye. Sokolov) is skillfully directing collectives toward accelerating the pace of agriculture's development and transferring stockraising to intensive technology. Average annual gross output on the oblast's kolkhozes and state farms increased by 16 percent. The highest growth of meat production and procurement was secured. Brest Oblast is close to Grodno Oblast in terms of milk yield per cow. The 5-year plan targets were fulfilled for the sale of all types of produce to the state, with the exception of sugar beet.

The restructuring of work in the Mogilev Oblast party organization (Obkom First Secretary Comrade V.S. Leonov) is dragging on. There still are quite a few leaders there who apply outdated methods to the solution of the new and more complex tasks. The oblast failed to fulfill its 5-year plan for the procurement of potatoes, flax fiber, livestock and poultry, milk, and wool.

Comrades! As a result of the persistent and purposeful work done by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and party, soviet, and economic organs over the last few years, the lag that developed at the start of the 5-year plan period has been basically overcome. Technological and executive discipline have been enhanced, the structure of crop farming has been clarified, and material and financial means are being concentrated more on the main avenues of greater efficiency. This made it possible to reach in 1984 the 5-year plan levels for the sale to the state of grain, potatoes, vegetables, sugar beet, milk, and eggs. The target for meat was not met.

The measures that have been taken, coupled with the great assistance rendered by the state, helped to consolidate the financial and economic position of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and 1,471 loss-making farms have become profitable.

Our cadres have overcome the psychological barrier of lack of faith in self-reliance, and have seen for themselves that it is actually possible to make more efficient use of the production and scientific potential. This is a great achievement by the republic party organization. Faith in our people's strength, common sense, talent, and industry, together with reliance on the masses, have been, are, and must always be a fundamental principle of the activity of every party organization.

It is important to consolidate the incipient positive trends and, relying on what has already been achieved, to ensure higher output growth rates. Harvest yields on every farm must be brought into line with the farm's natural and economic conditions, and yields must be no less than one quintal of grain per plowland hectare indexation point [ballogektar]. This demands an active transition to intensive technology resulting by the end of the 5-year plan period in the cultivation of 2 million hectares sown to grain crops yielding 35 quintals per hectare and 300,000 hectares sown to potatoes yielding 250 quintals per hectare. Flax fiber harvest yields should reach 7-8 quintals per hectare. This will make it possible for the republic as a whole to ensure the following harvest yields [per hectare]: 30 quintals of grain crops, 200 quintals of potatoes, and 200-210 quintals of vegetables. Milk yield per cow is to increase to 3,500-4,000 kg, and the average daily weight gain should reach 660-650 grams for cattle for rearing and fattening purposes, and 400-450 grams for hogs.

It goes without saying that these tasks are far from easy and far from simple. They are, however, realistic. The material base for this has been created in our republic, and we have skilled and experienced cadres capable of engaging in economic activity in line with present-day standards. We have people to emulate, people whose experience should be followed. Last year there were 9 rayons which harvested over 30 quintals of grain per hectare: Grodnenskiy, Berestovitskiy, Volkovysskiy, Shchuchinskiy, Nesvizhskiy, Slutskiy, Molodechnenskiy, Kletskiy, and Minskiy. There were 47 farms which produced 40 or more quintals of grain and 300 quintals of potatoes, while 93 farms harvested 8 or more quintals of flax fiber. There were 25 kolkhozes and sovkhozes which achieved milk yields of more than 4,000 kg per cow. Milk yields of between 4,000 and 6,000 kg per cow were achieved by 844 mechanized milking operators, and 32 achieved yields in excess of 6,000 kg. These are the indicators for which every farm and every rayon must aim.

The experience of the frontrankers and of the best kolkhozes and sovkhozes proves convincingly that the main point is to utilize land and assets thriftily, to improve the organization of affairs, and to strictly observe technological demands. Party committees and organizations must work persistently to ensure that all kolkhozes and sovkhozes take the path of intensive development more quickly. It is important to introduce energetically the new and progressive forms of production and labor organization and to seek the best ways to stable high results under any weather conditions.

A high return can and must be produced by drained fields, which represent an area of 2.5 million hectares. Their productivity does not exceed 27 quintals of feed units per hectare compared with the planned 34 quintals. An additional area of 518,000 hectares of fields is to be reclaimed during the 12th 5-Year Plan. The enhancement of the efficiency of the utilization of drained and irrigated fields to planned levels and the unconditional fulfillment of the long-term land reclamation program approved by the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum must provide the main avenue of work by the State Agro-Industrial Committee, the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and the Main Administration for Land Drainage and Construction of State Farms in the Belorussian Polesye.

The further development and strengthening of the feed base is one of the most important tasks for workers in the agro-industrial complex. Feed crop productivity must be raised to 50-60 quintals of feed units per hectare of plowland and 30-35 quintals of feed units per hectare of pastureland.

Stockraising is to be raised to a qualitatively new level. It is developing extensively on most farms. The intensification of this sector can be achieved only on the basis of the comprehensive solution of feed base questions and the utilization of the achievements of genetic engineering and breeding and of advanced biological methods for the qualitative improvement of the herd.

The transition to the flowline-shop system of milk production must be achieved everywhere during the next 1-2 years, and scientifically substantiated upkeep and feeding of cows must be organized with due consideration for their physiological condition and productivity. It is necessary to clarify intrafarm specialization and to reconstruct stockraising premises. There must be a change in attitude toward the reproduction of the dairy herd, and the rearing of calves in specialized stock units must be organized.

An increase in animal weight gains must be achieved on the basis of the widespread introduction of advanced fattening technology, observance of the requirements of veterinary science, and utilization of frontranking experience. Fuller use must be made of the potential of stockraising specialization and concentration. Many complexes have not yet reached the level of their design indicators; yet they must become models of highly efficient stockraising production on an industrial basis.

During the current 5-year plan period vegetable production must be raised to a level that makes it possible to satisfy the population's vegetable requirements according to scientifically substantiated norms. This requires more vigorous development of the material and technical base of produce storage and processing and a fuller use of the potential of industrial enterprises and other organizations.

While consolidating the public sector in agriculture, it is necessary to build up the output of produce on subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations, and institutions, to show constant concern for the personal subsidiary plots of kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers, and to develop collective orcharding and market gardening.

Party committees and organizations must draw the attention of leaders and specialists on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and in agroindustrial committees and associations to economic questions. It must be ensured that every farm works on the principle of recouping its own expenditure and guarantees expanded reproduction on the basis of its own funds. It is impossible to tolerate the fact that expenditure on many kolkhozes and sovkhozes is in excess of income. The previous 5-year plan period saw increases in the production costs of milk, potatoes, sugar beet, and cattle weight gain. Economic analysis is still not the determining factor of economic decisionmaking everywhere.

It is necessary to institute party monitoring of the question of farm income distribution between accumulation and consumption funds and of the correlation between the rate of labor productivity growth and labor remuneration. All mass political work in team, shop, and stock unit collectives must be closely coordinated with their activity to fulfill financial autonomy targets. Labor remuneration must be made directly dependent on end results.

Lagging farms require unflagging attention. Some of their leaders, while receiving state supplements to procurement prices, make no effort to seek out internal reserves. It is important to ensure that by the end of the 5-year plan period all kolkhozes and sovkhozes show at least 25 percent profitability. Extensive use for this purpose must be made of the initiative and valuable experience of Brest Oblast's frontranking farms in helping economically weak kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Party committees, soviets of people's deputies, and the Belorussian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee must devote more attention to processing sectors. They still constitute a bottleneck, and their material and technical base is weak. It is necessary to build up capacities for the more comprehensive processing of agricultural raw materials and the production of foodstuffs based on potatoes and vegetables, and to increase the production of products from every processed metric ton of meat and milk.

Increased efficiency in agricultural production demands the stepping up of scientific backup for it and the intensification of agrarian science. The most immediate practical task is to develop varieties and hybrids of cereal crops producing harvest yields of 60-90 quintals, and to create a dairy herd with an annual productivity potential of 6,000-7,500 kg of milk, together with a new type of beef cattle and a new line of hogs ensuring an average daily animal weight gain of 1,300 and 800 grams respectively. It is necessary to aim for closer integration of agricultural science and production and consolidation of its experimental sector.

We are entitled to expect effective actions from the republic's State Agro-Industrial Committe and its local organs. They bear the entire responsibility for high end results from the work of the sectors in this complex, for the rational utilization of production potential and all types of resources, and for the expansion of the range and improvement of the quality of foodstuffs.

The task of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department and of party committees and organizations is, without allowing petty supervision or supplanting of agro-industrial complex cadres, to help them concentrate their efforts along the main avenues and assist in affirming everywhere an atmosphere of businesslike efficiency and lofty responsibility.

The Belorussian SSR State Committee for the Protection of Nature and the State Agro-Industrial Committee must elaborate and implement measures for a fundamental improvement in the protection of the environment.

5. Improving the Structure of Capital Investments, Reducing Construction Times, and Improving Construction Quality

Comrades! The draft Basic Guidelines note that the central task of capital construction is the creation and accelerated renovation of the national economy's fixed assets and the fundamental improvement of the construction industry's efficiency. Its implementation is inseparable from the improvement of investment policy. Output growth must be secured not so much through the construction of new projects but via the technical renovation of existing enterprises. Capital investments channeled in this direction during the 12th 5-Year Plan must be no less than 50 percent of the total.

Many ministries and departments and enterprises under union jurisdiction are still using a large proportion of their appropriations for new construction. Expenditure on reconstruction and retooling in 1985 represented only 35 percent in the republic as a whole, 17 percent in the Ministry of Grain Products (Comrade N.S. Yakushev), 18 percent in the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources (Comrade V.I. Pavlyuchuk), and 28 percent in the Ministry of Communications (Comrade I.M. Gritsuk).

Comrades, drastic changes are needed in investment policy. It is also not possible to tolerate the fact that direct expansion of production disguised as retooling is undertaken. The relative share of construction and installation work as a proportion of total reconstruction expenditure is growing. Presently it stands at 72 percent, including 93 percent in machine building, 89 percent in the construction materials industry, 85 percent in local industry, and 83 percent in light industry.

Substantial improvement is also needed in the technological structure of investments. Construction and installation work accounts for more than half of all capital investment. Even greater expenditure on the creation of nonproductive fixed production assets is planned by a number of ministries, departments, and enterprises for the 12th 5-Year Plan. This demands intervention by the republic government and strict party exactingness.

The dissipation of capital investments has not yet been finally overcome. It must be ensured that the construction and commissioning of projects during the current 5-year plan period take place within the normative deadlines. These are the demands of the draft Basic Guidelines, and we must fulfill them unconditionally. The starting point must be projects whose construction starts this year. Stocks of uninstalled equipment must be brought to normative levels during the next 2 years. The Belorussian SSR Gosplan and Gosstroy, the republic offices of the USSR Stroybank and Gosbank, and the party and soviet organs must adopt a painstaking approach toward the justification of new construction projects.

There must be fundamental improvements in the organization of affairs at all stages and in all links of the construction industry production line. First and foremost, design organizations must shoulder greater responsibility for the soundness of documentation. They must aim to bring down the estimated cost of construction through the use of efficient technological processes, comprehensive mechanization and automation of production, and advanced layout and structural solutions and to reduce future operating costs.

There is a need for the broader introduction of automated design systems. As yet only 12 percent of documentation is prepared in this way. This indicator must double during the current 5-year plan period, and this will require that design organizations be supplied with the appropriate equipment and that designers improve their skills. The solution of these questions is up to the Belorussian SSR Gosstroy and Gosplan.

The industrialization of construction work and the engineering and technological groundwork for production facilities must be raised to a higher level. The question of the further development and better utilization of the construction industry base remains as topical as ever. It is necessary to introduce a truly thrifty attitude toward the utilization of equipment. It has already become a matter of habit for construction industry workers to constantly complain about shortages of machines, fittings, and accessories. There is, of course, still a shortage of many instruments, much equipment, and many means of mechanization. Technical supplies to the sector need further improvement. It is, however, appropriate to recall that, for many years on end, the growth rate of fixed assets for construction purposes has considerably outpaced the growth of the volume of work performed. Machines and devices are used for virtually single-shift work. There is considerable waste on construction sites. What is needed is better economic management, improved organization of affairs, and stronger discipline and order. The Belorussian SSR Gosstroy must expand the experiment which encourage the reduction of material, labor, and financial costs. It is necessary to transfer to new conditions of design and construction for all projects as of 1987.

It is imperative to enhance the quality of construction output everywhere. There still are frequent deviations from designs and breaches of norms and regulations for the acceptance for commissioning of production, social, and cultural projects and roads. One apartment block in five is classified "satisfactory" on handover. It seems that the time has come to get rid of mediocre construction work.

The republic's Gosstroy, Gosplan, Gossnab, and construction ministries and departments must step up their organizational work to fulfill the Comprehensive Program for Enhancing the Efficiency and Quality of Construction Work During the 12th 5-Year Plan. The Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Department, and Central Committee Secretary Comrade Yu.B. Kolokolov personally, must monitor more strictly the implementation of this program.

6. A Precise Rhythm in Transportation Work

The draft new edition of the CPSU Program provides for further development, retooling, and enhanced efficiency in all sectors of the production infrastructure. Particular attention is devoted to the improvement of the transportation network and the creation of a ramified network of good roads.

The operations of the republic's national economic complex were repeatedly hindered during the past 5-year period because of unreliable work by the transportation services. The measures taken in the last few years made it possible to repair the situation somewhat.

Much was done by workers from the Belorussian Communist Party Central Commttee Transport and Communications Department (Comrade I.V. Filatchenkov) to mobilize Communists and labor collectives to eliminate the shortcomings. They must continue to apply the objective approach. The Central Committee department and the leaders of transportation ministries and departments must focus their attention on the main issue: the stable fulfillment of transportation plans by each enterprise and in terms of all freight categories, and the reduction of delivery costs.

During the 12th 5-Year Plan the growth of freight carrying operations in transport must be achieved with reduced numbers of workers. This means that a resolute offensive must be launched against manual labor.

The Belorussian Railroad's experiment deserves approval. It was planned to increase labor productivity by 18 percent during the course of this experiment in 1985-86 on the basis of people doing more than one job operating more machines, mechanization and automation, and improved organization of labor. About 12,000 people — 11.4 percent of the personnel — have already been released. Labor productivity increased by almost 11 percent last year. At the same time, the Belorussian Railroad failed to achieve any substantial acceleration in railcar turnaround time. There has been virtually no increase in the average speed of freight trains. The proportion of empty runs by the rolling stock has increased. The utilization of trucks has deteriorated.

The elimination of transportation's lagging behind the national economy's requirements is a matter not only for transportation departments but also for all economic organs, enterprises and organizations, and soviets of people's deputies. The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must elaborate measures for the rational utilization of transport. The distribution of shipments must be determined by the lowest possible material expenditure, and primarily by fuel and energy expenditure. It is important to introduce continuous and new specialized types of transportation, such as pipelines, pneumatic containers, conveyors, and others.

It is important to make better use of departmental motor vehicle transport. Relying on existing experience, more resolute steps should be taken toward transferring it to the system of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Motor Transport. As yet this work is being done timidly, unsystematically, and with a lack of purpose.

The accelerated introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress must provide the basis for the development of all types of transport — rail, motor, river, and air — and communications. Of course, one of the paramount tasks of workers in transport and communications is to improve the standard of services for the population. It is very important to ensure trouble-free and uninterrupted transport operations and to make railroad stations, bus stations, and airports more comfortable.

7. Improving the Management of the Economy and Optimizing the Economic Management Machinery

Comrades! During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers implemented a number of measures to improve the leadership of the economy. A master scheme for managing the republic's national economy is being prepared. Work is continuing to further deepen specialization and increase the concentration of production on the basis of the establishment of associations. The targeted program method of planning is being applied on a broader scale.

Nevertheless, many pressing questions concerning the improvement of economic management are still awaiting a solution. The organizational structure of management requires improvement. Its apparatus increased by 28 percent over the last two 5-year plan periods. The number of management personnel in virtually all sectors is rising faster than the total number of workers. Almost half of this growth stems from the introduction of new positions and the creation of additional offices in existing enterprises, organizations, and institutions.

Various intermediate links, such as trusts and administrations, which are essentially appendages of the central apparatus, are functioning in many ministries and departments. There are numerous petty subdivisions, quite often duplicating one another.

The republic Council of Ministers must elaborate and implement a program to improve the organizational structure of the economy's management, to abolish intermediate links, and to effect a transfer to a two-tier system, to management of national economic complexes.

It is necessary to constantly improve associations' operational machinery and to make full use of the advantages of concentration and specialization in order to accelerate scientific and technical progress and improve production organization and technology. It is by no means everywhere that rights and obligations are distributed on a sufficiently substantiated basis between umbrella enterprises and their subordinate enterprises. What is needed are further centralization of planning, accounting, and material and technical supplies and consolidation of associations' scientific and technical subdivisions. There is a need to create and develop intersector associations, which have proved to be a highly efficient form of economic activity.

It is necessary to further enhance the role played by the basic production link — associations and enterprises — and to expand their economic autonomy and their potential in retooling and improving production and in planning, and also to step up economic responsibility for the end results of work.

These questions are being worked out in the process of the economic experiment. At present the enterprises working under these conditions account for about 70 percent of the republic's industrial output. All sectors of the economy are due to be transferred to new conditions in the current 5-year plan period.

Using the experience accumulated in the course of the experiment, it is necessary to develop the methods of economic management that have proved themselves and to seek ways to step up the influence of the economic machinery on the enhancement of production efficiency and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. The main point is to make fuller use of the normative approach, introduce complete financial autonomy more energetically, and transfer more quickly to the system of recouping expenditure.

The Belorussian SSR Gosplan and Council of Ministers are dragging out preparations for the creation of an integral machinery of economic management. It is necessary to speed up the elaboration of proposals on this matter. Constant work must be done to improve the economic machinery. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Economic Department (Comrade G.N. Vecherko) must display more exactingness in ensuring precise and coordinated actions by the Gosplan, the Ministry of Finance, and other economic departments.

The transition to team forms of economic management in industry is due to be basically completed during the current 5-year plan period. In this process efforts must be concentrated on enhancing the efficiency of teams' work. Its is necessary to restructure more actively the planning and accounting of their activity, to organize reliable engineering, material, and technical backup services, and to introduce financial autonomy. As yet these questions are being resolved slowly. Only one-third of workers employed in teams are working under conditions of financial autonomy in industry. This work is particularly unsatisfactory in enterprises under the Ministry of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry (Comrade L.S. Kravtsov) and the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry (Comrade V.L. Bildyukevich) and in the meat and dairy industry sector (former Minister Comrade A.F. Kryukov). It is necessary to expand the team contract system in agriculture, the construction industry, transport, and other sectors of the national economy.

Planning work must be raised to a qualitatively new level. The republic Gosplan, which must become a scientific economic center, must concentrate its attention on resolving key long-term questions and determining the best possible intersector and territorial ratios. The scientific substantiation and balanced nature of plans and their accurate elaboration and coordination from the territorial-sectorial viewpoint are not yet always ensured. There are still instances of downward revision of indicators by individual ministries, departments, or enterprises.

The improvement of planning must be subordinated to the main objective — the achievement of high end results. When finalizing the 12th 5-Year Plan, the Gosplan and ministries and departments must ensure proper balance between all its sections, take maximum account of reserves, and make provision for the rational utilization of labor, material, and financial resources and for tight indicators of production efficiency.

Particular attention must be devoted to the even spread of targets over the 5-year plan period. There must be no repetition of past mistakes, when lower plan figures were set for the initial years, quarters, and months , and higher ones for the closing periods. These instances must be evaluated from a principled party position.

Paramount importance must be attached to the elaboration of plans to introduce the achievements of science and technology. It is necessary to shift from the planning of uncoordinated measures to the plan-based comprehensive technical improvement of production. This part of the plan must provide the basis for the elaboration of all its remaining sections.

More efficient use must be made of computers in management and planning. The 195 computer centers with 28,000 employees operating in the republic have not yet reduced the costs of the management apparatus. The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must define measures to improve the work of these subdivisions and make provision for the preferential development of multi-user computer centers.

The improvement of the machinery of management and economic activity persistently demands a fundamental change in the content, style, and methods of work and a psychological reorientation of management cadres. Party committees and organizations must aim to ensure that every leader has a good mastery of fundamental scientific, technical, and organizational elements of production and is capable of analyzing economic processes in depth and finding ways to achieve high end results. It is necessary to ensure everywhere the unity of political and economic leadership, high standards of organization, businesslike efficiency, competence, discipline, and personal responsibility for entrusted work.

II. Actively Implementing the Party Program in the Sphere of Social Policy and the Shaping of the New Man

1. The Enhancement of People's Prosperity and the Improvement of Their Working and Living Conditions Must Be a Daily Party Concern

The party's precongress documents set the task of raising people's prosperity to a qualitatively new level and ensuring a level and pattern of the consumption of material, social, and cultural goods corresponding most fully to the goals of shaping a harmoniously developed and spiritually rich individual. The volume of resources channeled into the satisfaction of the people's needs is due to double over the next 15 years.

Real per capita incomes and the average monthly wages of workers and employees in the republic are planned to increase by 13.5 percent, and kolkhoz members' earnings are planned to increase by 17-19 percent during the current 5-year plan period. Social consumption funds per capita will increase by 20 percent.

The problem of supplying the population with high-quality commodities and services has acquired urgency in connection with the rapid growth of working people's money incomes. The Comprehensive Program for Developing Consumer Goods Production and the Services Sphere in 1986-2000 envisages a 29-percent increase in output of nonfood commodities by the end of the 5-year plan period, including a 50-percent increase in output of articles for cultural, consumer domestic, and household purposes.

Soviet, economic, and planning organs must make maximum use of reserves for consumer goods production, accelerate the retooling of enterprises, and introduce more actively flexible production processes making it possible to switch production more quickly in line with changes in consumer demand.

Specialized sectors and enterprises are called upon to play the main role in supplying the market with the necessary goods. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Light Industry must organize the output of high-quality textiles, advanced construction materials, and furniture and must substantially improve the work of design services.

Local industry enterprises must make better use of their potential. Approximately 40 percent of this sector's output is still sold to nonmarket consumers [vnerynochnyy potrebitel]. Local raw materials and industrial waste must be brought into play. At present the share of the output produced from them does not exceed 12 percent. As you can see, reserves do exist; it is only a matter of mobilizing them. The task of enterprises not specializing in consumer goods output is to increase their production to the level of the annual wages fund.

As before, paramount attention must be devoted to improving supplies of foodstuffs to the population. Meat and dairy product sales increased during the 5-year plan period. It is necessary to substantially raise the quality and expand the range of foodstuffs, and shift primarily to factory packaging and prepacked deliveries. In order to resolve these important tasks, the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers and the Belorussian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee must pool the efforts of ministries and departments and of transportation and trading organizations.

Trade and public catering were further developed during the last 5-year plan period. At the same time, quite a few complaints are still made against them. Standards of service are poor. Commodity turnover plans are fulfilled with great difficulty. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers have elaborated measures for the further development of the material and technical base of trade and public catering. The trade network needs specialization and comprehensive rationalization. Technological progress must spread to the sector's backup services — warehousing, refrigeration faciltiies, and transport and loading operations. Public catering must be brought as closely as possible to the places where working people work, study, and relax, and the network of fast-service enterprises must be developed.

Much remains to be done to create a modern and highly developed services sphere. The volume of services is to increase by 50 percent during the current 5-year plan period, and their quality is to improve substantially. People's growing demands for various types of housing, municipal, transportation, consumer, and cultural services must be satisfied more fully. Every enterprise and every organization must provide paid services. This year, all major plants and associations must complete the setting up of consumer service reception desks and, wherever expedient, repair workshops and hairdressing salons. Comprehensive municipal service facilities must be created more quickly in the countryside.

The Central Committee Light Industry and Consumer Goods and Trade and Consumer Services Departments and Belorussian Communist Party obkoms must analyze more deeply and more specifically the work of party committees and soviet and economic organs and must more energetically seek ways to step up party influence on the solution of all these vitally important problems.

A task of particular social importance has been set by the draft new edition of the CPSU Program: to ensure separate housing — be it an apartment or an individual home — for virtually every family by the year 2000. It is planned to commission 24 million square meters of housing in the republic during the current 5-year plan period. More rational use must be made of state funds for housing construction; cooperative and private construction must develop more broadly; the housing stock must be renovated and its maintenance improved; and there must be stricter monitoring of its distribution and use.

The problems of the countryside's social development remain as topical as ever. About 6 million square meters of housing and 9,400 km of hard-surface roads were built there during the last 5-year plan period. The pace that has been set must be not only consolidated but also accelerated. The volume of housing construction in the countryside must increase by more than 20 percent. At least 10 well-appointed apartments per farm must be commissioned on an annual average. Better roads must be laid to all population centers and stock units. A task on the agenda is to complete the comprehensive development of kolkhoz and sovkhoz central precincts with a full complement of social and cultural service projects.

The material base of medical institutions has strengthened over the last few years. Their network will continue to expand in the current 5-year plan period. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Health and its local organs must improve the provision of universal clinical checkups for the population and the prevention of diseases and must decisively enhance the quality of medical services. The role of physical culture and sports in improving people's health must be enhanced. It is important to ensure that they become a daily need for everyone from an early age.

It is necessary to further improve social security and to show more concern for war and labor veterans, invalids, families of dead servicemen and partisans, and the elderly. Party, soviet, and economic organs must constantly keep in view questions concerning the further improvement of the position of mothers and mother and child protection. The population's needs for preschool institutions must be fully satisfied in the most immediate future, and the network of Young Pioneer, work, and sports camps must be expanded.

All these are matters of daily concern for local soviets of people's deputies, labor collectives, trade unions, and other public organizations. But not a single aspect of our people's life must remain outside the focus of attention of party organizations.

2. Linking Ideological Work Closely With Life and Making It Specific and Effective

Comrades! Our most important task is to make full use of the transforming force of Marxist-Leninist ideology in order to accelerate socioeconomic development and fundamentally improve work on working people's ideological and political, labor, and moral education.

The paramount concern of party committees and organizations is the further development of the ideological conviction of Communists and all working people and of their political culture, initiative, and creativity in the struggle to implement the party's plans. To this end it is necessary to make fuller use of the entire arsenal of forms and methods of ideological influence, and above all the system of political studies and economic education, which embraces about 2.5 million people in the republic.

It is necessary to increase the return on studies and to strengthen their educational and mobilizing influence. They must develop in people a sense of personal involvement in the affairs and concerns of the party and the state and the sense of being the thrifty masters of the country. It is important for propagandists — and there are about 100,000 of them in our republic — to be educators and organizers and together with students to seek and find efficient ways of resolving vital tasks.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department and party committees must straighten out the structure of political and economic education, reduce the proliferation of subjects, and strengthen the continuity of studies. And, most importantly, they must bring them closer to labor collectives' practical problems — as the party organizations of the cities of Minsk and Baranovichi do — by creating schools for the intensification of the economy and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

Practice attests that success in education is ensured by the unity of economic, ideological, and organizational work. The measures adopted recently to increase the economy's efficiency and strengthen its social orientation have had a favorable influence on enhancing the effectiveness of ideological and political education. However, not all our cadres have yet acquired the ability to perceive and take into account the economic, social, and moral and political aspects of management. This was shown by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau's examination of the activity of Vitebsk and Mogilev Obkoms, Dzerzhinsk and Kalinkovichi Gorkoms, and other party committees.

The CPSU Central Committee's guideline that ideological work is a matter for the whole party and for every Communist must be more persistently and consistently fulfilled. Unfortunately, this guideline is more often proclaimed than put into practice. Measures to implement the Law on Labor Collectives, integrated political days, open letter days, and regular reports to the population by the personnel of sectors linked with serving people have helped to change the situation. But the potential for improving this work has by no means been exhausted.

A healthy moral and psychological climate in the collective, a businesslike style of work, competence, and decency on the part of the leader, and his ability not to lose sight of the political implications of economic management, that is, of what offers the opportunity to conduct propaganda, persuade people, and conduct agitation not by means of general truisms but by means of work, order, and organization, are effective educational factors.

One of the key lines in education is the consistent assertion of social justice. Party and public organizations have reliable means in this regard. There is irreproachable compliance with Soviet laws and with the norms of the socialist way of life. There is rigorous monitoring of the extent of labor and the extent of consumption. There is publicity in assessing each person's labor contribution. The party demands that every leader and every Communist ensure by his deeds and by his attitude toward people unswerving compliance with the principles of social justice. The peculiarities of the present period oblige us to deal better with the education of working people, especially young people, in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism and with the inculcation of readiness to defend the homeland. Labor collectives and party and public organizations must still more closely strengthen their links with troop units, improve the work of DOSAAF organizations, and instill in young people love for the USSR Armed Forces.

Urgent questions such as the inculcation of high culture in inter-nation relations and of a sense of the Belorussian people's indissoluble unity with the great Russian people and the other fraternal peoples of our multinational motherland must not escape the attention of party committees and organizations. Active participation by the representatives of all nationalities living in the republic in production management and the work of organs of power must be ensured.

Our main patriotic and international duty is to constantly increase the republic's contribution to developing the country's unified national economic complex and the Soviet people's culture.

In order to improve patriotic, class education it is necessary to more vigorously affirm communist ideals, propagandize the Soviet state's historic path, and at the same time step up the denunciation of imperialism and its ideology, policy, and morality. Work in this direction by lecturers, propagandists, scientific staffers, writers, cultural figures, artists, and journalists must be stepped up.

The role of secondary and higher education in educating and training conscious, educated people capable of highly productive labor and of the defense of the homeland should be increased. Comprehensive targeted programs for improving the quality of the educational process, the training of cadres, and the ideological and political, labor, moral, and aesthetic education of young people have been elaborated and are being implemented in the republic. Work to ensure computer literacy on the part of pupils and students is being developed. The conditions for every secondary school graduate to master one of the mass trades are systematically being created. To this end wide use is being made of the network of production and study combines established in the republic and of the material base of vocational and technical schools.

However, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department, party committees and organizations, and public education organs are still not showing due persistence in implementing the measures elaborated in connection with school reform. No serious changes have occurred in the content of the educational process. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, Ministry of Education, and State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, local public education organs, and party committees must focus their efforts on its all-around improvement and consolidation.

The most important thing is to mold in the rising generations, while they are still at school or at a VUZ, high political culture, a creative aspiration toward the new, and the desire and readiness to work conscientiously and highly professionally. As well as acquiring a broad technical outlook, the future specialists and young workers must master modern methods of creating and manufacturing high-quality output.

Together with the Belorussian SSR Gosplan, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Education, and State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education must in the very near future elaborate a system for the regional and sectorial planning of the training and utilization of mass trade cadres and specialists. It is necessary to introduce more widely targeted forms of instruction and scientifically based methods of assessing the professional suitability of applicants during admission to educational establishments and the assignment of their graduates. Life also demands the creation in the republic of an integrated system for improving the qualifications of and retraining cadres on the basis of the leading VUZes.

Literature and art play a growing role in shaping Soviet people's spiritual world, lofty civic stance, and esthetic tastes. A number of works of literature, music, painting, and cinematography have been created in the republic during the last few years which have gained recognition by the people. The subject of heroism is being successfully developed. Creative young people are making themselves known with increasing confidence. The ties between literature and art and social practice are strengthening. Nevertheless, they do not always provide an in-depth reflection of whatever perturbs their contemporaries. Quite a few artistically weak works still appear. This is a matter of serious concern for us.

What is needed today are talented works using living and memorable imagery to reveal the moral and political sources of Soviet people's innovative aspirations and actions. We are talking about the creative intelligentsia's active participation in people's education, in the reorientation of their mentality toward working in the new style, and in the development of everyone's sense of duty and responsibility.

Great importance here is attached to class perspicacity, implacability toward bourgeois ideology, politics, and morals, impeccable mastery of the methods of socialist realism, and high standards of political and philosophical thinking by creative workers.

Great reserves for economic and moral advancement lie in the sensible use of free time. Our people's leisure is becoming more interesting and more diverse. However, today there are only a few isolated examples of the application of the new forms of mass-cultural and health-oriented physical culture work. What is needed is a qualitative restructuring of the entire leisure sphere and the strengthening of its material base. This, in turn, demands the pooling of the potential and energy of culture and sports institutions and of economic, trade union, and Komsomol organizations.

The increased tasks of ideological, political, and moral education must be resolved in the new fashion. It is necessary to free mass political and cultural enlightenment work more rapidly from formalism, declamation, and the substitution of bureaucratic administration for living work with people.

The fruitfulness of education depends largely on the acuteness of our reaction to any violations of our moral norms. It is necessary to ensure that the experience of people in Novopolotsk in strengthening the moral-political climate in labor collectives and involving unemployed people [nezanyatyye lyudi] in socially useful labor — experience approved by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee — is introduced everywhere.

Following the passing of the new anti-alcohol laws, party committees and organizations, labor collectives, and mass news organs launched a more objective and more resolute struggle against the ugly phenomenon of drunkenness. This enjoys our people's approval and support and has a positive effect on the moral climate in society, in production, and in daily life. But the attention devoted to these matters is slack in many places. The force of law and measures of disciplinary, administrative, and social influence are not always used against drunkards. There must be consistent and firm implementation of the line of overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism, eliminating the shortcomings existing in this work, and firmly establishing the healthy and sober way of life. It is necessary to enhance the personal responsibility of the leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs and trade union and Komsomol organizations for the unconditional execution of the party and government directives on struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism and for the strengthening of discipline, organization, and order.

More attention must be devoted to questions such as strengthening the family and enhancing its role in and responsibility for the upbringing of children. Sensible use must be made here of existing socioeconomic potential, public opinion, literature, and art. Of course, Communist parents must be held more strictly to task for the moral climate within the family and children's upbringing.

We expect more from social scientists when it comes to interpreting the theoretical and practical problems of our society's development at the present stage, the shaping of personality, and the organization of educational work. Quite a few works appear in print, but by no means are all of them distinguished by profound analysis, fresh thinking, and substantiated conclusions. There is too much description and scholastic deliberation. It is necessary to raise the theoretical standard of research work and strengthen the ties between social scientists and production collectives.

People's consciousness is increasingly affected by the mass news media. Their base has strengthened over the last few years. The construction of a new television center is approaching completion and television transmitters have been boosted. A republic television program has been established. The contents of newspapers, journals, and books are improving. The mass news media must concentrate their efforts on the main avenues of social life and must enhance the effect they have on people through political clarity, purposefulness of statements, depth of meaning, greater flexibility, extensive news coverage, vividness, and accessibility.

Experienced and knowledgeable workers must staff all sectors of propaganda and agitation, education, culture, and mass news. There must be further improvements in the system for their training and retraining on the basis of the enhanced demands made by the party in terms of their ideological and theoretical standard, professional skill, and ability to lead people.

To put it briefly, extensive, painstaking, and responsible work lies ahead along all avenues of ideological, political, labor, and moral education. In the process of improving this work, it must be borne in mind that the basic criterion of the efficiency of educational efforts is the enhanced consciousness of people and their readiness to resolve persistently and skillfully the tasks set by the party.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department (Comrade S.Ye. Pavlov) must analyze in greater depth the processes occurring in the socioeconomic, spiritual, and moral life of labor collectives, must display greater initiative in restructuring propaganda and mass political work, must be more exacting toward ideological departments and services, and must intensify its monitoring of their activity. Comrade A.T. Kuzmin, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, must be more persistent in the implementation of measures to improve ideological work and enhance its efficiency.

Comrades! The situation in the world remains tense through the fault of imperialist circles and primarily the United States. The CPSU, expressing the will of the Soviet people, firmly and purposefully follows a principled course of averting the nuclear threat and of developing international relations in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and detente. The attention of peoples from all continents is focused on the profoundly well-argued Soviet peace initiatives set out in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In this document, which is a landmark in the struggle for lasting and universal peace, the CPSU and the Soviet state have put forward a program for totally eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000 and ensuring reliable security for present and future generations. Mikhail Sergeyevich's statement encountered ardent approval and universal support in the republic.

Life imperatively demands that each of us augment with our shock labor our contribution to the strengthening of the country's economic and defense potential and its lofty international prestige. Questions of participation in international cooperation must be resolved effectively and from clear-cut class positions; targets within the framework of socialist economic integration must be fulfilled promptly; and friendly ties with the fraternal socialist countries must be deepened.

III. Party Organizational Work Must Be Equal to the New Tasks

1. Improving Party Leadership of All Spheres of Life

Soviet society's entry into a new stage marking a turning point in its development makes higher demands on the standard of political leadership and organizational activity on the part of all party components. Lenin's words that the new situation demands not just a simple repetition of memorized formulas and slogans but also "initiatives, mental flexibility, inventiveness and independent work on an **original** historical task" (V.I. Lenin. *Complete Collected Works*, Vol 19, p 82) have a particularly topical ring today.

The Leninist style of work is a reliable means for achieving the set goal. This is emphasized with renewed force in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and October (1985) Plenums and in all recent party documents. The components of this style — specificity and businesslike efficiency, objectivity in evaluating achievements and in determining ways to overcome shortcomings, purposefulness and consistency, and organization and extensive publicity — are being established with increasing persistence in the activity of all Belorussian Communist Party components. This was promoted to a large extent by Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, obkom, gorkom, and raykom plenums and party meetings in all organs of management and in the republic's labor collectives devoted to this issue.

Some time ago the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee voiced serious complaints against the Brest party obkom because of omissions in the utilization of production potential. It is to the oblast party organization's credit that, as has already been noted, it managed to restructure its organizational and political work to a large extent, which made it possible to encourage people to make better use of reserves and potential. The oblast has taken a significant step forward.

A systematic and creative approach toward the solution of problems distinguishes the Grodno Obkom, the Volkovysk Gorkom (First Secretary Comrade M.V. Zhebrak), the Baranovichskiy Raykom (Comrade N.V. Domenikan), the Dokshitskiy Raykom (Comrade N.I. Ustin), and the Stolbtsovskiy Raykom (Comrade M.I. Rovdo). Recently this approach became more clearly noticeable in the activity of the Minsk and Gomel Belorussian Communist Party Obkoms.

But restructuring has not occured everywhere. Not all party committees are persistent in improving the forms and methods of work. There is an unjustifiable lack of attention to this matter at the Tolochinskiy Belorussian Communist Party Raykom (First Secretary Comrade V.P. Minin). The rayon's natural and economic conditions are among the best in the Vitebsk region, and earlier it occupied front-ranking positions in the oblast and the republic. The last few years, however, have seen a serious drop in the development of agricultural production. In comparison with 1976, harvest yields have fallen for grain crops (from 31.3 to 25.5 quintals), flax fiber (from 8.6 to 6.2 quintals), and potatoes (from 137 to 130 quintals). Milk yields have fallen, animal weight gains have declined, and production costs have risen. During the last 5-year plan period the rayon failed to fulfill its plans for sales to the state of potatoes, flax fiber, meat, and milk.

There is no clear-cut system in the party raykom's work, which is dominated by a superficial and not always competent approach to the utilization of existing potential to boost the output of agricultural produce. Responsibility for this lies with the Vitebsk party obkom and its secretaries, Comrades Ye.I. Radetskiy and T.I. Misuno, who failed to analyze the rayon's affairs in depth and in practice tolerated its lagging.

Some Belorussian Communist Party gorkoms and raykoms lack a self-critical attitude toward achieved results, overemphasize their successes, and obscure omissions. They are slow to overcome the supplanting of soviet and economic organs, conservatism in thinking, inertia, stereotyped approaches toward leadership, and obsolete methods of leadership. To a greater or lesser extent this is typical of the Drogichinskiy Belorussian Communist Party Raykom (First Secretary Comrade B.V. Osovtsov), Svislochskiy Raykom (Comrade I.K. Yarmoshchuk), Smolevichskiy Raykom (Comrade V.S. Chechko), Khotimskiy Raykom (Comrade V.A. Prudnikov), Sennenskiy Raykom (Comrade N.F. Domashkevich), and Gomel's Zheleznodorozhnyy Raykom (former First Secretary Comrade L.V. Astraukh).

It is necessary to shift from "general" leadership to specific leadership. Particular emphasis must be placed on work with people and on the ability to organize and run affairs. Fewer words, assurances, and promises; more weighty and tangible results!

During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee enhanced the role and responsibility of state and public organizations and strove to ensure that every one of them — be they soviet, trade union, or Komsomol organizations — tackled its own affairs and made full use of the rights and powers vested in it.

The soviets of people's deputies now bear greater responsibility for the elaboration and implementation of comprehensive plans for economic and social development. The trade unions have improved the working people's involvement in the solution of economic and management tasks. The work of Komsomol organizations has been galvanized.

However, many state organs and public organizations are still functioning sluggishly and without initiative. They often hide behind the backs of party committees and shift on to them their direct responsibilities.

Many rayispolkoms, primarily Beshenkovichskiy, Ivatsevichskiy, Kalinkovichskiy, Kruglyanskiy, Myadelskiy, and Oshmyanskiy, have yet to overcome the superficial approach to the resolution of tasks in economic and cultural building.

The soviets of people's deputies must find their position in the reconstruction and retooling of enterprises and must ensure that changes for the better occur not only in the technical nature of production but also in the employees' working and living conditions. There must be unflagging monitoring by deputies of the construction of housing, schools, hospitals, other projects for social and cultural purposes, and roads. The soviets must make a greater contribution to the organization of consumer goods production, the Food Program's fulfillment, and the restructuring of the countryside.

The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must channel the efforts of local soviets and economic organs more objectively toward the prompt discovery and utilization of existing reserves and potential for the republic's socioeconomic development. Not all ministries and departments have fully abandoned administrative-bureaucratic methods of leadership. For example, many staffers of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry cannot see important problems of the sector's development from behind piles of paperwork.

Life persistently demands improvements in the work of people's control organs. They must be more efficient in verifying the execution of party and state directives, preventing shortcomings, and taking a resolute stance against everything that harms the cause. Party committees and organizations must give constant assistance and support to people's control organs.

During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee took resolute measures to further strengthen socialist legality and law and order and to eliminate serious shortcomings in the activity of some law enforcement organs. Comrade G.N. Zhabitskiy was relieved of his duties as Belorussian SSR minister of internal affairs, and Comrade A.I. Mogilnitskiy was relieved of his duties as republic prosecutor.

At the same time, law enforcement organs are still inadequately efficient in the struggle against criminal behavior. The political sections of internal affairs organs have still not found their place in this work. Militia, prosecutor's office, court, and administration of justice staffers must vigilantly guard Soviet laws, the interests of the state, and the rights of the working people. Party committees must show constant concern for the expansion of ties between law enforcement organs and the public and labor collectives.

The Belorussian Trade Union Council Presidium, oblast trade union councils, and many sector trade union committees still look only superficially into the affairs of grassroots organizations. They often perform only inspection functions with regard tothese organizations and give them little specific assistance. Trade union organizations must enhance the efficiency of socialist competition and free it of the habits of formalism and bureaucracy. Labor rivalry must be channeled toward labor productivity growth and improved output quality, prompt performance of contractual obligations, introduction and assimilation of new equipment, and rational utilization of work time and all types of resources. Moral incentives must be more fully applied. The trade unions, together with soviet and economic organs, must show daily concern for the satisfaction of people's social and cultural needs and for their health, rest, and leisure.

The activity of many Komsomol committees and organizations is being restructured only slowly. The Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee Bureau is largely to blame for this. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Party Organizational Work, Propaganda and Agitation, Science and Education Establishments, and Culture Departments also bear responsibility for this.

In improving leadership of Komsomol organizations, it is important not to allow excessive tutelage of them and to encourage initiative and independent action. The energy and ardent intellect of young men and women must be oriented toward the resolution of specific national economic tasks. There should be more effective concern with the school Komsomol and Young Pioneer and other organizations of pupils and young students.

The republic Communist Party Central Committee inseparably links the improvement of the standard of leadership of state, economic, and cultural building with the further improvement of work with cadres. This key problem was discussed in detail at the 3d and 22d Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee

Plenums and is constantly examined by the Bureau and Secretariat. Party committees have elaborated and are implementing long-term plans for training and retraining cadres at every level. Reports from Communist leaders and conversations with them on the fulfillment of statutory and professional obligations and party decisions and assignments have become a rule. The role of certification of specialists is growing and the significance of testimonials is intensifying.

In implementing the Leninist principles of the selection, deployment, and education of cadres it is necessary to take account of their political outlook, business and moral qualities, professionalism and practical experience, ability to ensure effective management and harmonious work by collectives in the sector entrusted to them, and ability to match what has been done to the tasks to be resolved.

The slightest manifestations of complacency and negligence must not be tolerated. It is necessary to resolutely eliminate what V.I. Lenin described as dereliction, negligence, shoddiness, laxness, nervous precipitateness, and a tendency to substitute discussion for action and talk for work. The question is being posed today in the following way: People who cannot reorient themselves and are incapable of following the dialectics of present-day life in all its depth and complexity must make way for more vigorous workers with solid knowledge and good organizational abilities.

The republic party organization is concerned with ensuring that promising young workers work, gain experience, and acquire the necessary political and business tempering alongside tested cadres. The leadership of individual oblasts, a number of cities and rayons, and many labor collectives has been strengthened recently. More women are being promoted to responsible sectors. They account for more than one-third of party gorkom and raykom secretaries.

It is well known that the creation of a reliable reserve is the fundamental basis in work with cadres. However there are still considerable shortcomings and mistakes in shaping such a reserve. Random people are often added to the reserve. The result is that it exists on paper, but sometimes there is no one to promote. Such shortcomings are inherent in the Braginskiy, Brestskiy, Kirovskiy, Lioznenskiy, and Smorgonskiy Raykoms.

Great specificity and a systematic approach is required in work with cadres. The questionnaire [anketnyy] approach is intolerable when appointing a person to a given post. What is important is not a general knowledge of what the worker is like but a detailed clarification of how suitable he is for precisely the position in question and how knowledgeable and authoritative he is in the field being entrusted to him.

It important to step up the attention devoted to management cadres. People lacking adequate experience or competence often find their way into ministries, departments, and their subdivisions. Party organizations must display more concern for middle-level cadres. It is disquieting that every fourth team and livestock unit on kolkhozes and sovkhozes is headed by people without specialized education. There is a particularly high proportion of such people in Mogilev and Minsk Oblasts. This is also a topical problem for industry, construction, and the services sphere. Its solution should be tackled more persistently and consistently.

It is necessary to display a totally principled approach to assessing leaders' moral makeup and get rid of people who embark on the path of deception of the state and money-grubbing, who are disrespectful toward people, and who flout our moral norms. The following raykom secretaries were fired for these reasons: P.S. Bagino in Mozyrskiy Rayon, D.P. Krasovskiy in Polotskiy Rayon, Yu.V. Meshcherov in Dyatlovskiy Rayon, and A.I. Setevinets in Shchuchinskiy Rayon. Every Communist must bear a dual responsibility for misdemeanors he commits — to the law and to his party comrades. The shielding of leaders from their criticism — and instances of this kind do occur — is intolerable. Liberalism must not be displayed toward people who are out of step with discipline or abuse their position. The Party Organizational Work Department and Comrade G.G. Bartoshevich, second secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, must display a more profound and principled approach to the selection, deployment, and education of cadres.

Cadres are a key element in party work. The attention of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms has been and must remain centered on this question.

2. Strengthening the Party Ranks and Developing Intraparty Relations

Relying on statutory norms and the CPSU's demands, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has achieved an increase in party organizations' militancy and has developed and deepened intraparty relations.

The new edition of the Program and the amendments being made to the CPSU Statutes will promote the intensification of the party's leading and directing role. Their essence lies, on the one hand, in further expanding intraparty democracy and developing the initiative and activeness of Communists and all party organizations, and first and foremost primary organizations, and, on the other, in increasing their responsibility for the resolution of common matters. These changes serve to increase the CPSU member's prestige, title, and significance. They take account of time-tested party building practice. At the same time they enrich the statutes with new provisions in keeping with the demands of the times and Communists' wishes. Some formulations have been made more specific.

The Belorussian Communist Party — one of the CPSU's militant detachments — includes 668,000 Communists. More than three-fourths of them work in the sphere of material production. In the last 5 years over 100,000 people have been admitted to the party. Some 57.5 percent of them are workers.

The approach to admissions to the CPSU must be strict and exacting. Haste and superficiality are sometimes tolerated, however. This was shown, in part, by the recent Central Committee Bureau discussion of the Svetlogorsk Gorkom's work to increase and strengthen party ranks. There, as in a number of other places, the qualitative aspect is overlooked and consideration is not always given to the specific characteristics of labor collectives, particularly those where the intensification of party influence is particularly necessary.

Concern for the purity and strength of party ranks is our prime duty. Communists' responsibility for the objectivity of recommendations [for admission to the party] must be increased and new recruits must be helped in their ideological and political growth. It is important to make fuller use of the educational potential of the period as a candidate member and schools for young Communists and of the tremendous life experience of party veterans.

It is necessary to enhance in every possible way primary party organizations' role in molding high ideological and political and moral qualities in party members. There are over 15,000 such organizations in the Belorussian Communist Party. Fruitful work is carried out by the party organizations of the Minsk electrical equipment plant, Vitebsk's special design bureau for gear-cutting, polishing, and grinding machine tools, the Mogilev ribbon factory, the "Gomelpromstroy" construction and installation association, the "Progress" kolkhoz in Grodnenskiy Rayon, the "Parakhonskiy" sovkhoz in Pinskiy Rayon, Minsk's "Belarus" department store, Secondary School No 10 in the city of Gomel, and many others.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has displayed constant concern for strengthening primary party organizations' influence on resolving the tasks of economic and cultural building and people's education. During the period under review, the activity of 28 of them was analyzed in the Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat. The implementation of the adopted resolutions helped to improve their work.

However, certain party organizations poorly influence affairs in labor collectives and make insufficient use of the right granted to them to monitor the administration's activity and the work of the apparatus. As yet not all production subunits have party formations. There are no party groups in one in three teams in industry and one in five in construction. There are no Communists in one in seven livestock units.

Certain party committees are lax in helping primary party organizations to restructure their work and resort to the overregulation of work, which fetters initiative and reduces Communists' activeness. This is characteristic of Ivyevskiy, Petrikovskiy, Chausskiy, and Chashnikskiy party raykoms.

Central Committee departments and Belorussian Communist Party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms must improve leadership of primary party organizations, whose range of rights and functional duties is considerably expanded by the changes being made to the CPSU Statutes.

Communists' meetings and party committee plenums must be a real platform for collective opinion and a school of education. There is still much formalism in holding them. Criticism is often one-sided. There is plenty of it from above and almost none from below — of Bureau members and party committee secretaries. Many plenums of Polotsk Gorkom and Zhabinkovskiy, Dyatlovskiy, Krasnopolskiy, Kormyanskiy, and Minsk's Tsentralnyy Raykoms are held in that kind of atmosphere.

It is necessary to seek to ensure that critical analysis of activity is established everywhere and that any lack of objectivity in assessments of what has been achieved is totally eliminated. Cadres are correctly educated only in an atmosphere of criticism and self-criticism, bolshevik frankness, and a universal orientation toward constantly seeking potential and reserves for increasing production efficiency. Criticism must be businesslike, specific, and constructive and must help people to get rid of shortcomings. This can be achieved only if every criticism and useful proposal is immediately followed by a response. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms must struggle more resolutely against those who do not brook criticism and persecute people for it. The possibility envisaged by the CPSU Statutes of criticizing not only any Communist but also any party organ at party meetings, conferences, congresses, and committee plenums will help improve matters.

The party teaches us to closely and carefully heed the opinions and mood of Communists and all working people. Letters are one source of such information. In the last 5 years the republic's party committees received 370,000 letters. They contained many valuable proposals, pieces of advice, and wishes. Many of them prompted the adoption of appropriate decisions. At the same time slanderers must be unmasked and brought to book.

All omissions, wherever they are discovered, have a common denominator: the absence of monitoring and precise verification of execution. Each year Bobruysk Belorussian Communist Party Gorkom heard reports from the party committee and leadership of the "Bobruyskshina" association. But the resolutions that were adopted were not backed up with specific organizational work. There is still much mismanagement at the enterprise, and labor discipline is faltering. The 5-year plan target for production volume was not fulfilled. It is necessary to ensure that monitoring is preventive, exacting, and profound and is carried out systematically and in a timely fashion, from above and below simultaneously. The role of the secretariats of the Central Committee and of Belorussian Communist Party obkoms and also of party commissions must be enhanced here.

The system of party information needs to be restructured. Information must be accurate and must totally rule out self-praise and window dressing. Anodyne and laudatory reports prompt incorrect assessments and erroneous judgments. Correct decision-making requires specific and objective analysis of events.

The creation of an atmosphere of businesslike efficiency and lofty exactingness depends on all members of an elected organ, and particularly on the party committee's first secretary. He must be modest, fair, and smart, must skillfully organize people for the solution of complex tasks, and must honestly and openly admit defects and mistakes if they occur.

Comrades! The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has rigorously adhered to the principle of collective leadership. There were 25 Central Committee plenums and 22 republic aktiv meetings during the period under review. The Central Committee Bureau examined various aspects of the activity of all obkoms, 24 party gorkoms and raykoms, and a number of ministries and departments and public organizations. The best experience of party organizations was continuously generalized. The Central Committee Secretariat concentrated its efforts on monitoring the execution of adopted decisions.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau and Secretariat strove to ensure that the Central Committee apparatus and departments established a party-minded analytical and creative approach toward problems of economic and cultural building and people's education. This line must be continued even more persistently in the future.

The report and election campaign held on the eve of the congress demonstrated the lofty organization and cohesion of Communists, the militancy of party organizations, and their mood for the successful implementation of the course set by the party. There was considerable renovation of elected party organs. Workers, kolkhoz members, and women are respresented more broadly on them, and the national composition of party organizations has been taken more fully into account.

The CPSU's precongress documents had an enormous effect on the course of the report and election campaign and on the republic's entire sociopolitical life. The widespread and keen discussion of these documents everywhere was of a creative nature. The discussion was closely linked with the solution of current and long-term tasks and helped to boost working people's initiative and activeness.

More than 4 million people took part in the discussion of the precongress documents. They submitted almost 13,000 proposals and suggestions. Party committees and the editorial offices of republic newspapers and journals received about 4,000 letters expressing unanimous support for the drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program, the changes to the CPSU Statutes, and the Basic Guidelines.

On the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress, common concerns and identical aspirations with the party and the country characterize the life and work of the republic's working people. Eloquent proof of this is provided by the weighty results of the precongress shock labor vigil. We must consolidate and augment the labor eagerness and ardent enthusiasm of the masses. The talent, skills, experience, and knowledge of the republic's working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and intelligentsia must be made to serve the new 5-year plan.

Allow me, on behalf of the 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress delegates and all Communists to assure the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee that the Belorussian Communist Party and all working people in the republic will make a worthy contribution to the acceleration of our socialist motherland's socioeconomic development.

Central Auditing Commission Holds Meeting 18 Feb

PM181705 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86
First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Auditing Commission"]

[Text] A meeting of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission was held 18 February at which the commission's report to the 27th CPSU Congress and also a draft new statute on the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, which is to be submitted to the forthcoming party congress, were examined and approved.

Gromyko Hands Out Awards at Kremlin Ceremony

LD182358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1800 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today in the Kremlin conferred the highest state awards upon a group of recipients. Hero of Socialist Labor (Motornyy), chairman of the Korov kolkhoz in the Belozerskiy Rayon of Kherson Oblast and Popov, team leader of a timber procurement brigade of the Komsomolskoye timber farm of the Tyumenlesprom association, recieved Orders of Lenin and second Hammer and Sickle Gold Medals. (Rodchenko), captain of the scientific expedition ship *Mikhail Somov* of the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, and (Chelengarov), head of the rescue expedition on the icebreaker *Vladivistok*, received Orders of Lenin and Gold Star Medals of the Hero of the Soviet Union. (Lyalin), commander of the helicopter section, who was also granted this award, is now in the Antarctic. The Order of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal of the Hero of Socialist Labor were conferred upon Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Gromyko warmly congratulated the recipients. He expressed confidence that these esteemed awards, received on the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress, would serve as an inspiring stimulus in their labor in the name of the further development of our Soviet state and the raising of the welfare of the people.

The recipients of the awards expressed cordial gratitude for the high evaluation of their work.

PRAVDA Lauds Merits of Soviet Democracy

PM181508 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 86
First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Humanism of Soviet Democracy"]

[Excerpt] Soviet people are approaching the 27th CPSU Congress aware of the demands of the time and are shifting the emphasis to practical matters. Now that complex and large-scale tasks are being resolved, it is important to raise people's conscious interest in the results of still more lofty work and to improve its quality. The humanism of our democracy requires the development of criticism and self-criticism and the vigorous utilization of tools such as publicity in the interests of pooling the creative efforts of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intelligentsia and enriching their political standards.

The struggle to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development is inseparable from the improvement of socialist democracy and the further strengthening of the Soviet state. As the nucleus of society's political system, the CPSU is constantly concerned with improving the activity of soviets — the main component in the people's socialist self-management — and does a great deal to improve the activeness of trade unions, the Komsomol, and other mass organizations.

In building up our economic and spiritual potential, the development of democratic initiatives in areas where people work — production — is of particular importance. The influence of worker collectives on the state of affairs and people's education has now increased, and their interest in discussing and adopting important decisions and working out and implementing enterprises' plans has grown. Skillfully utilizing the machinery that safeguards working people's rights, all labor collectives must at the same time create an atmosphere in which each person can work productively and with the highest return.

In educating the country's citizens in a spirit of clear understanding of the unity of their rights, freedoms, and duties, the CPSU strengthens the humanist nature of socialist democracy and creates the best conditions for molding an active life stance in each person, a stance, which, like a laser beam, draws together all aspects of people's patriotism, internationalism, spiritual wealth, and forward-looking approach and enhances their responsibility for the implementation of the party's domestic and foreign policy.

Our democracy and its humanism are reflected in the new Soviet initiatives. They indicate real factors for asserting the prime right of all peoples — the right to a peaceful life and the creation of conditions for the continuation of the human race and the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe.

Enjoying the fruits of socialist democracy, Soviet people reaffirm again and again their adamant fidelity to its principles and resolutely reject various kinds of recommendations to "improve" our way of life in line with bourgeois standards and models. Soviet democracy has its own traditions and its own criteria of freedom and humanism. Being genuinely popular and just, it is incompatible with any manifestations of chauvinism, nationalism, racism, or anti-Semitism. Our democracy stands guard over the interests of all the country's peoples — large or small — and defends their equality and freedom.

K. Marx called communism real humanism. Today his ideals are reflected increasingly fully and profoundly in our aspiration to achieve a qualitatively new state of society, in raising people's responsibility for strengthening its moral health, and in the concern for each person's prosperity and spiritual development. Propagandizing the humanist ideals of socialist democracy is one of the tried and tested means of ensuring the class tempering of all Soviet people and strengthening their civic maturity, discipline, and organization. At the same time it is also a powerful weapon for party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations in the struggle against the "values" engendered by bourgeois democracy. Our way of life opposes any attempts to belittle people or destroy them as individuals by using the violence and terror which flourish in the so-called "free" world.

Consistently implementing the humanist principles of Soviet democracy, the CPSU is developing the people's socialist self-management. This is the guarantee of our society's successful progress toward communism.

Persecution on Minority Population Refuted

PM181417 [Editorial Report] Moscow *SOVETSKAYA ROS SIYA* in Russian on 13 February publishes on page 3 under the heading "In a Single Family" a 1,500-word article, datelined Tashkent, by dramatist Bakhriddin Nasriddinov who states that during trips abroad he has seen "how miserly is the information — or, to be more precise, how perfidious is the misinformation — which even civilized people have of the life of the Soviet peoples and their labor, daily life, and culture." Having cited examples of this "misinformation" and denied claims that Jews in the Central Asian republics are persecuted, Nasriddinov goes on to describe the development of culture in Soviet Uzbekistan and to deny "stories that in our country discrimination is practiced against representatives of 'minority nations.'"

The article then refutes allegations that "people from the Muslim population in the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan actively refused to join the struggle against the fascist invaders during the Great Patriotic War because of their religious convictions," pointing out that many Uzbeks were awarded orders and medals in the war.

During his theatrical career, Nasriddinov concludes, he has frequently met with other artists and exchanged opinions and argued with them about artistic matters. How, then, "can one fail to be indignant at the impudent lies of the bourgeois ideologists, their Zionist lackeys and their ilk about the violations of human rights allegedly occurring in our country and the injustices allegedly perpetrated in our country against representatives of minority peoples?"

Shcherbitskiy, Voronin Address Aktiv Meeting

PM181529 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Feb 86 p 1

[TASS report: "Red Banners for the Winners"]

[Excerpt] The winners of the all-union socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1985 and the targets of the 11th 5-Year Plan and for a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress include Kiev and Minsk, Gorkiy and Sverdlovsk Oblasts, and the Gorno-Altay Autonomous Oblast. On 14 February they were presented with CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners.

Kiev: In the last 5-year plan the Ukraine, as a member of the united family of Soviet republics, took a large step foward in economic, scientific, and cultural development and in the improvement of the people's well-being. For the first time the rate of growth in national income exceeded the rate of increase in capital investments, and the entire increase was due to improved labor productivity.

At a republican party economic aktiv meeting the lofty award was presented by L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers noted that the motherland's award creates an obligation to seek new reserves in order to increase the republic's contribution to strengthening the country's economic might. Most labor collectives have made a good start to the first year of the 12th 5-Year Plan, but a number of enterprises in machine building, the coal industry, and some other sectors have yet to find a steady work rhythm. The meeting discussed tasks linked to the fulfillment of the republic's plan and socialist pledges for 1986. The meeting adopted a resolution stressing the need to actively support and develop working people's creative initiative and involve them on a wide scale in competition for high end results in labor.

Commission To Investigate Sinking of Cruise Liner

LD181231 Moscow World Service in English
1200 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] The Soviet minister of merchant marine, Timofey Gu zhenko, has said a special commission was formed in the USSR to invstigate the reasons of the sinking of the Soviet cruise liner *Mikhail Lermontov*. Last Sunday the ship, with a pilot on board, struck reefs and sank off the coast of New Zealand. All the 408 passengers were rescued. One of the 330 crew members is missing. This is the first incident of this kind that occurred in the Soviet cruise fleet in many decades, the minister said.

A British company had an agreement with Mikhail Lermontov for accommodating passengers. Its leadership sent a cable noting the courage and presence of mind displayed by the crew when saving the passengers.

Changes in Ukrainian Council of Ministers Reported

Kulinich to Gosagroprom

AU181330 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian
11 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Ukrainian Supreme Presidium has relieved Comrade N.F. Kulinich of the duties of Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman in connection with his appointment to the post of deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom].

New Deputy Chairman

AU180831 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Georgiy Vasilyevich Dzis Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman.

[Signed] V. Shevchenko, chairman, and N. Khomenko, secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Kiev city, 10 February 1986

Born in 1926, Georgiy Vasilyevich Dzis has been a CPSU member since 1954, and by profession he is a mechanical engineer. He began his working life as a senior mechanic at a machine and tractor station. Having graduated from the Light Industry Technological Institute in Kiev in 1950, he worked as a mechanic, an institute lecturer, a chief engineer, and director of a machine and tractor station. Since 1958, he has held administrative and party jobs: a rayispolkom chairman, a raykom first secretary, Chernigov Gorkom second and first secretary, and chief of the Light and Food Industry Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. In 1972, he was confirmed as Ukrainian first deputy minister of light industry, and since 1978 he has been Ukrainian Gosplan deputy chairman.

Comrade G.V. Dzis is a member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Uzbek Commission Debates Work Deficiencies

GF182000 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] The Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Permanent Construction and Construction Materials Industry Commission held a meeting today. The convocation discussed the work carried out by the Uzbek SSR Ministry of Installations and Special Construction Work aimed at consolidating plan, state, and work discipline and upgrading the role of work collectives in accordance with the decisions adopted by the April and October 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

Speaking during the meeting, Deputies Khabibullayev, [name indistinct], Khayrullayev, (Vashev), and others stressed that the ministry's leaders have carried out a certain amount of work aimed at resolving matters concerning the issues referred to. However, the deputies also said that the leaders and the collegium of the Ministry of Installations and Specialized Construction are performing their work at a very slow pace, regardless of the contemporary demands. Many departments are causing serious breaches in plan discipline. Although the subsidiary (?organizations) of the ministry have managed to cope with the 5-year plan in general terms, the main and chief administrations have not realized the plan. As a result, the employment of new forces in work has been disorderly in the Angren coal (?works), the weaving factory and the [word indistinct] factory in Samarkand, [words indistinct], factory in Kattakurgan, and other objects last year.

The permanent commission advised the Ministry of Installations and Special Construction Work and its collegium to put into effect a complex of measures designed to eliminate deficiencies.

Agasyan Appointed Armenian SSR Minister

WA101640 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 17 Jan 86 p 2

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR has named Comrade Vladimir Vardazarovich Agasyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, as minister of the Armenian SSR.

Gafurov Appointed Minister of Tajik SSR

WA101643 [Editorial Report] Dushanbe *KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA* in Russian on 22 January carries on page 2 a 50-word decree announcing that Rakhimdzhon Gafurov, first deputy chairman of the Tajik SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, has been appointed minister for the republic. The decree is dated 21 January 1986 and is signed by G. Pallayev, chairman of the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and M. Saidova, secretary. Gafurov was released from his duties as deputy chairman of the Tajik SSR Council of Ministers in connection with his new work.

Moscow Railway Awarded Challenge Red Banner

LD080438 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] The presentation of the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee to the collective of the Moscow Railway took place in Moscow in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. Over the past-year's plan, labor productivity increased by 11.5 percent, which was 1 and 1/2 times above the planned figure. More than 1.5 billion tons of extra freight was carried on heavy trains and over 360 million kilowatt-hours of electricity were saved, which will enable the railway to operate on economized resources over the course of 26 days. The collective of the railway has now set itself new tasks on the introduction of complex technology which will enable transportation requirements to be fully met in the 12th 5-Year-Plan period.

Irregular Output, Work Pace in January Cited

PM181124 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[V. Sukhachevskiy "Economic Review": "Time and Pace"]

[Text] The economic review "Calculations and Results" (*IZVESTIYA* No 25) analyzed industry's work during the first 20 days of January. It was noted at that time that the scale of production achieved for some of the most important types of output was inadequate for the fulfillment of the annual plan. It was particularly emphasized that symptoms of the same old disease — an irregular pace of work — were visible during the period in question.

And so, January is over. What are the results? They can be described as positive on the whole. In comparison with the 1st month of last year there was a 6 percent growth of total volume and average daily output. A good pace was gathered, ensuring the confident fulfillment of the annual target: This year's plan envisages 4.3 percent growth in the total volume of output and 4.5 percent growth in average daily output (the current year is one working day shorter than last year).

The January output sales plan was fulfilled by all union republics and industrial ministries except the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry. Petroleum industry workers accumulated arrears of 1.2 million metric tons of oil during the month.

The first month of the new 5-year plan was no watershed in the important work of fulfilling delivery obligations. **Not a single industrial sector achieved a 100-percent indicator here.** The Ministry of Power and Electrification, the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry, the Ministry of the Coal Industry, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry proved to be the least reliable suppliers in January.

We have already remarked on how dangerous the irregularity of output is for the economy. During the first 10 days of January average daily extraction of coal and production of finished rolled metals, synthetic resins and plastics, and chemical fibers and yarns were considerable lower than required. The result was that, once again, all hands had to be called to the pumps in order to fulfill the monthly plan. And even that was of no help in some places. For example, there was no success in catching up with the lag in woolen and linen textiles production.

Some ministries are cleverly trying to build irregularity into the plan. For example, January represents 34.9 percent of total working time during the first quarter. If the law of regular working were to be applied, the quantity of output produced in this time also ought to be at least 34.9 percent. But, if we examine the output sales plans of, for example, the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, it appears that for them January "weighs in" at 33.3, 32.7, 33.2, and 33.9 percent respectively. Meanwhile, these ministries have considerably overfulfilled their monthly targets. Is this the way to plan?

And now, briefly, about another most important indicator — labor productivity. Its growth in January, compared with the same period last year, was 5.6 percent against a planned annual growth of 4.1 percent. This growth is encouraging. All industrial ministries except the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry coped with this target.

The first 10 days in February, however, are cause for alarm. A substantial lag has been allowed to occur in petroleum extraction plan fulfillment and the miners have not coped with their targets. A particularly poor start to the second month was made by the collectives of "Kemerovougol," "Krasnoyarskugol," and "Bashkirugol" associations.

Officials from the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy Planning and Economic Administration attributed the lag in rolled metal production in mid-January to the specific features of production: It is the start of the year, they said, not all equipment has been serviced, and we have to add to this the length of technological cycles. We'll settle down, they said, and we'll catch up.

But here are data from the USSR Central Statistical Administration: The output plan for finished rolled ferrous metals was fulfilled only 96 percent during the first 9 days of February, and arrears of 112,000 metric tons have accumulated. The Nizhniy Tagil, Novolipetsk, Chelyabinsk, Kuznetsk, and Orsk-Khalilovo combines, Dneprovsk's Dzerzhinskiy combine, and "Zaporozhstal" are holding the sector back.

Synthetic ammonia, sulfuric acid, and potassium fertilizer output was lower than planned. Targets for the production of metal cutting machine tools were not met. Leningrad's Ya.M. Sverdlov machine tool building association, Krasnodar's Sedin machine tool plant, and the Troitsk machine tool plant are mainly to blame here. So, does the sector headquarters again intend to "pile on the pressure" during the last 5 days, as it did in January when 38 percent of the total quantity of machine tools were produced in 5 days? Apart from anything else, such work obviously does not help to improve output quality.

During the first 9 days of February enterprises under the jurisdiction of the USSR Ministry of Light Industry accumulated arrears of 17 million square meters of textiles and 1.3 million pairs of footwear. There was a substantial drop in average daily output of these products. This is how shortages of consumer goods develop and lines build up in the stores. One thing is linked to the other.

The arrears of the Ministry of the Radio Industry and the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry in this period are calculated at 45,000 radio receivers and 23,000 television sets.

The planned level of refrigerator and freezer output was not reached, basically because of lags that were allowed to occur by enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances.

Output targets were not met for a number of petroleum products, synthetic resins and plastics, cement, commercial timber, and synthetic detergents.

On the whole, the plan for 92 (79 percent) of the 117 types of industrial output taken into account by the USSR Central Statistical Administration for its weekly reports was not fulfilled during the first 9 days of February.

It is again necessary to double and treble efforts in order to cope with the month's targets. Productivity records will be set, and there will be examples of selfless work.

Our society has always valued and continues to value labor heroism. What is bad is that advantage is taken of labor heroism to correct mistakes, muddles, and inability to organize work properly.

The changes which are now occurring in all spheres of our life have been welcomed by working people with approval. They will spare neither effort nor energy to successfully fulfill the set tasks. These efforts and this energy must be utilized correctly. Time demands that much be revised. It also demands a different approach to economic management.

Automated Drilling Control System Successfully Tested

LD172058 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1000 GMT on 17 February carries an economic news bulletin presented by Maksim Ginden.

Ginden begins by noting that a report has just come in that the first automated control system for drilling work in the country has successfully undergone testing and been put into operation at the well at Goryachevodskoye drilling directorate at Grozneft. He says that it is known that the oil workers here did not fulfill last year's plan and are still lagging behind, so any technological innovation is welcome.

Correspondent Tamara Aliyeva reports from the drilling directorate control room where she is talking to the deputy chief, Zilshchikov. He explains that computers control all the basic technological processes: deepening wells, running the casings, cementing the wells, and completing the construction of wells after drilling. He says that the economic effect of the system is a production increase of 250,000 metric tons per year. One of the subsystems has secured 122,000 metric tons extra which a substantial addition, he concludes.

Kursk AES Design Capacity Fulfillment Praised

LD171422 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1130 GMT on 17 February, in its "Novosti" program, broadcasts a video report by N. Grebnev from the Kursk AES where its second stage has reached design capacity. Grebnev notes that the design capacity of the first set at at the atomic power station took exactly 1 year to master, while the fourth set, also with a 1-million-kilowatt capacity, achieved this within 3 months — a feat as yet unequalled in the country. The state commission assessed the work of builders and assembly workers, also carried out at record rates, to be excellent. Also, not one technical fault was noted in the work of the power engineers. Almost 1 billion additional kilowatt-hours will now be fed into the country's unified power grid. To generate such an amount of power from a thermal power station, 5,000 rail cars of coal would be required. The newsreader notes in conclusion that since its commissioning the Kursk AES has generated 120 billion kilowatt-hours of power — 5 billion above the plan.

Rossiya Aids Other Icebreakers, Cargo Ships

LD182323 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
2200 GMT 18 Feb 1986

[Summary] The ice situation in the western sector of the Arctic continues to remain complex. Now the nuclear atomic icebreaker *Rossiya* has arrived to help icebreakers operating on the all-year route Murmansk-Dudinka-Murmansk. It has already taken ore-carrier *Nikel* through the Yeniseyskiy Zaliv. Now the *Rossiya*'s crew has begun escorting *MV Monchegorsk*, which is carrying Norilsk mining and metallurgical combine goods. The USSR Marine Fleet Ministry has said that nuclear icebreaker's trips are going successfully.

Briefs

Geothermal Energy on Kamchatka — Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky, January 17 TASS — The resources of subsoil heat on Kamchatka Peninsula, northeastern USSR, are large enough to warrant the construction of geothermal stations with a capacity of more than 500,000 kw. Exploring for geothermal sources is one of the main areas in which Soviet volcanologists work. They located five major hydrothermal systems on the peninsula. Major deposits were proposed by scientists for use as energy sources. The USSR's first pilot geothermal station with a capacity of 11,000 [words indistinct] one of them, called Pauzhetsky. [Text] [*Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 17 JAN 86 LD*]

Nuclear Power in Georgia — The construction of Georgia's first nuclear power station is planned for the 12th 5-Year Plan. Specialists at the republic's research institute for power engineering and hydrotechical construction have started working out the most efficient methods for its construction. They will have to work out optimum plans for the use of nuclear energy, not only for the production of electricity but also for the supply of heat to houses, offices, industrial enterprises and livestock farms. [Summary] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Jan 86 LD*]

Agro-Industrial Trade Unions Reorganized

PM141525 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Feb 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Plenums of Trade Union Central Committees"]

[Text] The first plenums of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union Central Committee and the Fish Industry Workers Trade Union Central Committee were held in Moscow yesterday. These two trade unions were formed with a view to bringing the structure of trade unions more fully into line with the management structure of the agroindustrial complex.

The Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union unites workers, kolkhoz members, and employees of enterprises, kolkhozes, institutions, and organizations of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Grain Products, and the USSR State Committee for Material Reserves.

The trade union organizations of enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Rural Construction, which has been abolished, are transferred to the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union, along with the trade union organizations of enterprises for the primary processing of cotton, flax, other fast crops, and wool and those of scientific research institutions which have been transferred from the USSR Ministry of Light Industry to the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee.

The Fish Industry Workers Trade Union unites workers, kolkhoz members, and employees of enterprises, fishing kolkhozes, institutions, and organizations of the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry.

In this connection the Agriculture Workers Trade Union and the Food Industry Workers Trade Union have been abolished.

The plenums examined organizational questions.

M.B. Ryzhikov was elected chairman of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union Central Committee, with A.S. Davydov as deputy chairman. N.I. Dezhinov, V.P. Nikitinykh, A.I. Popov, and L.A. Semenycheva were elected secretaries of the trade union Central Committee.

N.L. Matrosova was elected chairman of the Fish Industry Workers Trade Union Central Committee, with F.M. Korovin as secretary.

Taking part in the plenum were I.I. Skiba, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; M.I. Polyakov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; AUCCTU Secretaries V.P. Provotorov and K.Yu. Matsiyavichyus; and V.M. Kamentsev, USSR minister of the fish industry.

'Optimum' Structure of Gosagroprom Examined

PM181307 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 2

[Article by Professor G. Bespakhotnyy, doctor of economic sciences: "By the End Result; Agro-Industrial Complex: Restructuring Is Under Way"]

[Text] Moscow — The unified system of the country's State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom] has been created and is in operation. An economic restructuring is continuing in parallel with the organizational restructuring. The new structure — and in the opinion of many practical experts it is the optimum one — needs a corresponding economic mechanism. At the same time, experience of the work of the agro-industrial associations has revealed a number of problems in planning and encouraging production.

What are the main lessons of the first stage of the restructuring, which began 3 years ago? Half-hearted measures could not produce an effect. The rayon agro-industrial associations were unable to ensure the in-depth integration of agriculture with the processors and servicing organizations. The agro-industrial associations tried to establish plans for their partners, yet the resources and capital investments were handled by the departments. Many agro-industrial associations were concerned only with current issues, having basically adopted bureaucratic [administrativnyye] methods of management. Briefly, there has been no sharp turn toward intensification or the rational use of the potential which had been created. And although the capital-labor ratio has increased, the production volumes in a number of oblasts of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, and Uzbekistan have declined. Extensive growth factors have exhausted themselves.

The economic mechanism is the lever which can boost production efficiency and ensure an increase in output without additional expenditure. For instance, it is important to establish the optimum proportions between the feed base and the animal population, between the workforce and funds, between the capacity of the servicing and processing organizations and the kolkhozes' and sovkhozes' requirement for them. And then, with the same resources, but by making sensible use of them, specialists have calculated that the agro-industrial complex can increase production output 20-30 percent.

The decision to plan the agro-industrial complex as a single entity is very topical. But it cannot be regarded as merely the sum total of its sectors. There are far more complex links between them.

It is obviously not enough to link the capacities of enterprises and production volumes with capital investments and other resources. On each occasion the planning organs must ascertain the priority avenues. Assets must be invested where they will produce a rapid return and the maximum return. For instance, take land reclamation in the non-Chernozem. An important matter. But its effect can be cancelled out by losses due to the poor organization of procurements and storage and processing of output. Economists have calculated that if resources were partly redistributed, allocating them to the construction of storehouses, elevators, and processing enterprises, Vologda Oblast alone would produce additional output worth approximately R30 million.

It is not only between sectors that disproportions must be eliminated. Take, for example, economically weak farms: They have more growth reserves. But investments have frequently not gone where they are particularly needed, but closer to the cities. After all, that is where the rural construction workers' base is mainly located. And these workers, proceeding from their own interests, have given priority to the installation of projects close to rayon centers.

Not so long ago schemes were developed locally for the location and specialization of agriculture and processing and servicing enterprises. Analysis has shown that in them the sectors are only feebly interconnected. The planners frequently proceeded from departmental methods. For instance, recommendations for the location of material and technical supply bases consider only the expenditure of the former Goskomselkhoztekhnika. Other recommendations substantiate the construction of large food enterprises a long way from fields and stockraising units and essentially cancel out the creation of of processing shops directly on the farms. Yet today many kolkhozes and sovkhozes themselves repair equipment and install particular projects. If we make skillful use of existing processing plants and shops and place new ones correctly, by this means alone we will obtain a tremendous increase in foodstuffs.

I think that a planning document is needed at the oblast and rayon level — an organizational and economic draft for the formation of the agro-industrial complex. It would determine where to construct enterprises and their rational dimensions and development prospects. A considerable proportion of them should be on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The economic executives' dream is to rid themselves of the bonds which have fettered their initiative. Their participation in the elaboration of the plans of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes will be a manifestation of their independence. Here planning should be not "from what has been achieved," but from resources. It seems to me that V. Gorin, chairman of the Belgorod Oblast imeni Frunze kolkhoz, wrote about this very persuasively in *PRAVDA* recently.

Incidentally, the activity of the agricultural organs so far has also been excessively regimented "from above." Many plans have reached them — over 700 indicators for production, procurements, and sales of output; about 400 indicators connected with the use of capital investments; and over 100 for labor, wages, and finances. In some oblasts of the Non-Chernozem Zone, the bulk of output goes on their own needs. But even here plans for the full volume of purchases go by the board.

The number of indicators is to be reduced, which means that planning is easier. This will lend efficiency and flexibility to the decisions which are taken and will relieve the upper echelons of management of petty tutelage of local organs.

Above all there will be no further need for indicators connected with intermediate results. Is there a need to regulate from above the work of the servicing organizations — the repair and agro chemical organizations? Let them fulfill the farms' orders and be concerned for maintaining the machinery in a good state and increasing the land's fertility. Here there is absolutely no need to chase after a large quantity of repair and technical servicing operations. After all, in the past the partners' activity was assessed on the basis of expenditure. The time came when real conditions had been created for fundamentally breaking with this approach.

I think it is more expedient for republics, krays, and oblasts to have stipulated for them only that part of the end output of the agro-industrial complex which goes into the union-republican fund. It is desirable that this system be extended to rayons and farms. Both society and the kolkhozes and sovkhozes would gain if they were given broader rights in selling what they produce. The system of price formation is also in need of corrections. The republican and oblast agro-industrial committees should obviously change the purchase prices for individual types of output depending on the market situation. Local agro-industrial complex organs should be given the opportunity to set prices for their "commodity" with a consideration for kolkhoz market prices.

Well, leaders and specialists will have far more rights. But is centralized planning not "repealed" in this connection? No. Its methods will be different. As for the incentive mechanism, it should be such that orders "from above" become advantageous and authoritative.

The transition to economic methods of administration substantially alters the role of the rayon agro-industrial association. It is not an office that produces paper but a headquarters that assumes full responsibility for the state of affairs in the rayon's agro-industrial complex.

On the agenda is the assimilation of complete financial autonomy by the agro-industrial complex enterprises; and that means paying for themselves and financing their own capital investments. There is such experience on a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Right now resources are as a rule poorly linked to production volumes. Hence the frequent dependence and material irresponsibility of some leaders. When enterprises pay for themselves, however, their funds, including the wages fund, are formed only through their revenue.

As yet economic levers and incentives in the agro-industrial complex are operating only feebly. Here the new organs must seek a breakthrough. All kinds of supplements to prices for output are now in operation and people are paid numerous bonuses — for volumes of work, for the fulfillment of the plan, for exceeding the level previously achieved, and so forth. Far from everything is regulated in the collective contract. For instance, at present in transferring to the nonregulated link system, the wages fund per unit of output increases substantially in some places. But is this approach justified? Is it not extravagant to encourage only the actual fact of introducing the contract? After all, far from all collectives are achieving an increase in output.

An incentive should work purposefully to increase the harvest, milk yields, and weight gains. But sometimes a particular allowance gives a completely opposite result. Thus, an increase in prices for heavyweight livestock obliges the farms, in order to obtain an additional profit, to prolong the time taken to raise young animals. Scarce feed is spent and expenditure of labor and funds increase. And the mechanism of allowances for the output of farms showing a low profit operates in such a way that the laggards seem to be encouraged while those who work well lose out materially.

Incentives should reflect the real contribution of the worker or collective to the end results. This is an important requirement of financial autonomy.

Unified engineering, supply, and construction services for the rayon agro-industrial association are now being created. How should their work be assessed? Obviously by each service's contribution to the end result. The assimilation of intersectorial financial autonomy will help here.

A number of regions are conducting economic experiments to develop the economic mechanism. It would not be bad for the USSR Gosagroprom, together with other economic departments, to place the experiments under special control from the outset. This would help avoid many difficulties and errors. And the rayons and oblasts where the new methods are being verified would become a good school for retraining cadres and assimilating leading experience in management and the economy.

Cold Weather Persists in European Part of Country

PM171551 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by agrometeorologist N. Ignatova: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The cold weather, which established itself at the beginning of February in most of the European part of the country, continued throughout the 10-day period. The average temperature was 3-9 degrees below average. The heaviest frosts were in areas north of a line joining Petrozavodsk, Novgorod, Kaluga, Tambov, and Saratov. The minimum temperature there was between minus 34 and minus 26; over the remaining territory it was between minus 25 and minus 16. There was little precipitation.

Winter grain crops and perennial grasses were safely protected from the effect of heavy frost by a covering of snow. The growthof sample plants taken out of the fields by meteorological stations on 25 January, before the severe cold spell in the European part of the country, demonstrated that winter crops were wintering well in most areas.

The cold weather has brought problems for fruit crops. In some parts of Belorussia, in the Central Region, eastern parts of the Central Chernozem region, and the Volga-Vyataka region (north of Kamyshin) the minimum temperature on the surface of the snow was between minus 33 and minus 30 degrees. Because of the loss of hardiness as a result of the lengthy thaws in January, these temperatures could cause damage to the trunks of fruit trees and to fruit and leaf buds of stone fruits. A lack of snow in a number of Ukrainian oblasts and in parts of the Central Chernozem Zone has made the soil very cold. In some parts the temperature at a depth of 20 centimeters was between minus 10 and minus 7, which could cause some damage to the root systems of quince, plum, and cherry trees.

There were adverse winter conditions for fruit crops in the middle of the 10-day period on the south coast of Crimea and on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus. They had a considerable amount of snow. There were 3-10 cm of snow everywhere, with eastern Georgia having 11-25 cm, some places even more. The temperature dropped sharply. The minumum temperature on the south coast of Crimea was between minus 13 and minus 9, and on the Black Sea coast of the Transcaucasus it was between minus 9 and minus 7. This kind of cold spell in these parts could cause damage, particularly to warmth-loving decorative plants and some subtropical crops, and to unprotected citrus crops (especially lemons and oranges). Winter grain crops lay dormant in the republics of the Transcaucasus. Winter was proceeding satisfactorily there.

The weather was warm in the Central Asian republics, although there were frosts there at the beginning of February. It then became warmer. By day the temperature reached 18 degrees. Winter crops showed slight growth; in some parts pasture vegetation began to grow again. The warm spell has created favorable conditions for putting livestock out to pasture.

Earthquake Reported in Central Asia; No Casualties

LD191432 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS — An earthquake took place today on the boundary between Kirghizia and Uzbekistan (Central Asia). Its strength in the epicentre did not exceed 4-5 points by the Richter scale. The central seismic station Moskva, functioning in Obninsk, not far from Moscow, registered the beginning of the earthquake at 9 hours 43 minutes, Moscow time, and immediately transmitted the news to all the organisations concerned. There are no casualties and destructions.

The recording of fluctuations of the earth's crust is done in the USSR round the clock simultaneously in 100 points. The data are transmitted to the unified centre to be processed. The centre also receives reports from the CMEA member countries. Scientists receive information even about the slightest earth tremors and process this information promptly in order to know precisely the place and the strength of the underground tremor.

The station registers up to 300 earthquakes a year. It happens that the tape of the seismograph records deviations, providing evidence of substantial underground changes. Seismically this year is comparatively calm, though spring, the time for more frequent earth tremors, is approaching.

The sensitive seismograph which registers underground tremors at the Moskva station is capable of registering even those tremors which take place thousands of kilometres away from Moscow. The seismograph has been placed by specialists at a depth of three metres so that city transport and industrial enterprises should not interfere with its work.

The central seismic station Moskva has marked 50 years of its existence this year. Its archives keep recordings of all earthquakes over this period.

Cosmonaut Outlines Long-Term Space Program

LD142016 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Feb (TASS) — The main line of Soviet cosmonautics is to set up long-term orbital stations with changing crews, scientific laboratories which would be like interplanetary railway stations, Vladimir Shatalov, head of Soviet space training, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent. Both manned and transport craft will dock with these to supply the long-term expeditions with everything necessary. I believe that in the not-too-distant future a multitude of stations with various purposes and with the most varied apparatus will start to operate continuously above the planet.

General Shatalov, who has been into space three times, hands over his experience and knowledge to those who have not yet started. Moscow Communists have elected him a delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress, which opens on 25 February.

The day is not far off, Shatalov says, when space observatories and satellites can be put into orbit straight from the station. Most likely such complexes will be assembled directly in weightlessness from units delivered there by transport craft.

Vladimir Shatalov noted that a reliable technical base is now being laid down to accomplish these projects. He cited as an example the tests of the heavy satellite spacecraft Cosmos-1443, -1669, and -1686 as part of the orbital complex. These craft are comparable in size and mass with the station itself. It is not excluded that it will be possible in the near future to create specialized special-purpose modules on the basis of just such equipment.

The Soviet Union, the cosmonaut said, is ready to cooperate with all states in the peaceful exploitation of outer space; but, in peaceful exploitation, because for us the concepts of mutual cooperation and militarization of space are incompatible. Our position in this issue was exceptionally clearly and precisely formulated in the recent statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The scope of our cooperation is constantly widening, General Shatalov commented. Two Syrian pilots, Muhammad Faris and Munir Habib, have started training at Zvezdnyy. They will carry out a broad program of scientific research in space together with Soviet colleagues.

Progress of Vega Space Stations Reported

LD172212 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1145 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Feb [TASS] — The flight of the automatic interplanetary stations Vega-1 and Vega-2, designed for researching the planet Venus and Halley's Comet, has continued for more than 1 year. Following research conducted in June 1985 into the surface and atmosphere of the planet Venus, the stations were moved to a rendezvous trajectory with Halley's Comet, which is approaching the Sun. By now the spacecraft have travelled more than 155 milion km from Earth.

Radio communications sessions during which their flight parameters are determined and the functioning of service systems and scientific instruments is checked, are held regularly during the flight with the Vega-1 and Vega-2 stations. In December 1985 and January 1986 a full check of the spacecraft's functions was carried out by scientists and specialists from Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, the USSR, France, the FRG, and the CSSR.

A correction to the trajectory of the Vega-1 station was made on 10 February to ensure rendezvous with Halley's Comet. The Vega-2 station is travelling along a trajectory close to that calculated, and thus no correction to its trajectory is envisaged.

Operations in the preparation of the Vega stations for the final stage of the unique experiment began on 12 February. At the command from Earth, the automatic tracking platforms have been transferred from transport to operational mode and the televisions systems have been readied for operations. For the purposes of adjustment and calibration, on 14 February the television system of the Vega-1 station was targetted on Jupiter. A color image of the planet, which was 807 million km from the station, was received. The information coming in from space is being processed and studied at the Institute of Space Research of the USSR Academy of Sciences and at other Soviet and foreign scientific centers taking part in the comprehensive research into Halley's Comet.

According to data from telemetric measurements, the onboard systems and scientific instruments of the interplanetary stations are functioning normally. On 6 March and 9 March the Vega-1 and Vega-2 stations will be about 8,500 and 7,500 km respectively from the center of Halley's Comet.

Pictures of Jupiter

LD150029 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by S. Slipchenko and V. Pankratova]

[Summary] The first TV pictures from aboard the Vega interplanetary probe were received today.

Early this morning, following a command from Earth, the TV system was switched on aboard Vega-1. After a wait of 20 minutes — this is the time taken by a radio signal to travel to the probe and back — the first pictures appeared on the screen. Now the platform on which instruments have been installed is to turn around and aim the camera at Jupiter.

In the hall are scientists from the Soviet Unmion, Hungary, and France.

The probe's electronic brain is now changing the mode of operation and is selecting exposure and filters, while the members of the international Vega team check how accurate their collective thought has turned out to be and whether the solutions were correct. What they saw on the screen surpassed all expectations.

V.M. Balibanov, deputy scientific director of the project, interviewed at this point says: Now we have Jupiter in the very center of the picture, and we can now safely say that this is indeed Jupiter.

In the computer center of the space research institute color pictures of Jupiter were taken, as you can see now. Jupiter has been photographed by the Vega probe's TV camera with a different exposure, and for this reason the aureole around it is changing. The photographs are now being processed.

The monitor's screen also shows the international organizations, the scientists of nine countries who have joined their efforts. [Video shows a space flight command center. Camera then cuts to computer center at Space Research Institute with monitor showing color pictures of Jupiter and also the names of the organizations taking part in the Vega 1 experiment.]

Briefs

Robots for Machine Building — A new type of robot for use in machine-building has been developed at the Institute of the Science of Machines at the USSR Academy of Sciences. Correspondent Vladimir Rabyko reports that the device is very similar to a man's arm, but can work at a much greater speed and with 2-3 times more productivity. It can be used for loading compat equipment and simple assembly operations. [Summary] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 14 Feb 86 LD*]

Super-Strong Powder — Tallin, 17 Feb (TASS) — Estonian chemists have succeeded in developing materials as strong as tungsten alloys from the waste of titanium-chrome production. The materials developed by the specialists at the Tallin Polytechnical Institute using powder metallurgy methods have been tested successfully in the boiler units of thermal power stations. Fuel mixture diffusers manufactured from these materials have a working life 15-20 times longer than conventional ones. The diffusers are of a special form which is difficult to cast from conventional alloys. The Ilmarine works in Tallin has already provided such components from powder alloys to enterprises in the Armenian heating system and to Lithuanian and Belorussian electric power stations. [Summary] [*Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 17 Feb 86 LD*]

Armed Forces Exercises Held 10-17 February

LD171727 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS — An exercise of staffs, troops and naval forces was held on the territory of the Baltic region and Belorussia in the area of Kaliningrad, Baranovichi, Polotsk, Riga and the southern part of the Baltic Sea between February 10-17, 1986.

Mastered during the exercise were the tasks of staff preparedness, combat skill of troops, and management over troops and naval forces. According to senior commanding officers, the exercise was instructive, and showed the enhanced level of operational and tactical preparedness of staffs, of the skill of troops and naval forces in operations on land, in the air and at sea.

The objectives of the exercise were attained. The troops, naval forces and staffs involved in the exercise are returning to places of their permanent deployment.

A.D. Lizichev Promoted to Army General

LD191225 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that the military title of Army General be conferred on Col. Gen Aleksey Dmitriyevich Lizichev.

Lizichev Attends Northern Fleet Party Conference

PM180955 [Editorial Report] Moscow *PRAVDA* in Russian on 29 January in its First Edition publishes on page 2 a 1,500-word report by special correspondent A. Gorkiy on a Northern Fleet party conference at Sveremorosk, Murmansk Oblast. Gorokhov summarizes the conference speeches, emphasizing the Northern Fleet's "crucial" role in the "complex international situation and in the multifacted palette of confrontation." The report says: "When the conference participants were assembling in the Severemorsk Officers Club they did not yet know of the 'new' report by Admiral James Watkins, U.S. Navy chief of staff, entitled 'Naval Strategy.' It can be said that the report gives the concept of 'forward sea borders' its final shape. At the top, among the 'other specific targets,' is the Kola Peninsula, and it sets out the task of blackading the Northern Fleet in the Barents Sea." The report goes on to say that "Colonel General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, who was at the conference," had a meeting with Communists on the cruiser *Kirov*.

Ivanovskiy at Ground Forces Council Meeting

PM141521 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
14 Feb 86 First Edition p 2

[Colonel B. Pokholenchuk report: "Reserves for Strengthening Discipline"]

[Text] A meeting with secretaries of party committees and bureaus of a number of regiments, directorates, and military educational institutions has been held at the Ground Forces Military Council. Secretaries of the party organizations of progressive units and also of several laggard units were invited. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the most efficient methods and forms of party organizations' work on improving military discipline and enhancing organization and order in the spirit of the party's contemporary demands, to expose the reasons for the shortcomings that exist, to define ways to eliminate them, and to reveal unutilized reserves.

The report, which analyzed positive experience as well as the shortcomings in this area of party work, was delivered by Colonel General M. Popkov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate.

Summing up the discussion, Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense, emphasized the importance of a concrete, businesslike, profoundly thought-out approach to resolving the current tasks in every unit and subunit and of a resolute struggle against lack of self-criticism, formalism, and laxity.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Urges Servicemen's Vigilance

PM171221 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
15 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Be Vigilant"]

[Text] The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which put forward a package of major new foreign policy initiatives, has generated a very broad response across our planet. It is fervently supported and sincerely approved by all progressive mankind. Today all the peoples of the world have one common enemy — the threat of nuclear war — and one main task — to remove that threat.

However, despite the public's protests and demands and contrary to the will of the majority of the world's states, the U.S. ruling circles are pursuing a futile and dangerous policy and continuing to chase the impossible dream of military superiority. That is graphically confirmed by the U.S. President's traditional State of the Union Address which he delivered to a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives. Behind the high-flown proclamations about the need for peace can clearly be seen Washington's pretensions to global supremacy and to the role of arbiter of the fate of countries and peoples.

However, the matter is not limited merely to declarations on this score. Concrete actions are being carried out clearly designed to fuel hostility and mistrust and revive the very antithesis of detente — an atmosphere of confrontation. The arms race is continuing and the "star wars" preparations are expanding all the time. It is proposed to allocate the Pentagon $311.6 billion in fiscal 1987, which is considerably more than in the current fiscal year. As M.S. Gorbachev noted in reply to *L'HUMANITE*'s questions, the United States wants to "achieve absolute security for itself and to put everyone else in a position of 'absolute danger.'"

Imperialism continues to strive to bring centers of war danger closer to the state borders of the USSR and the other socialist community countries. The class enemy is actively trying to carry out ideological subversion. All this places on Soviet servicemen the utmost responsibility for ensuring the country's reliable security and calls for constant vigilance. So long as the danger of imperialism's launching aggression, military conflicts, and various types of provocation exists, the draft new edition of the CPSU Program notes, it is necessary to pay unremitting attention to stepping up the USSR's defense might and strengthening its security. The Armed Forces must display high vigilance and always be ready to nip in the bud imperialism's intrigues against the USSR and its allies and rout all aggressors.

The increasing of vigilance is indissolubly linked with the further improvement of personnel's combat and political training, the fundamental improvement of military discipline, the maintenance of regulation order, and increased organization in units, on ships, and in military-educational institutions and establishments. While taking care to increase personnel's vigilance, military councils, commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations are called on to ensure that all work relating to the inculcation of vigilance is closely linked to the characteristics of the international situation and the tasks currently facing the Armed Forces. That work must be conducted continuously both in everyday situations and during tactical exercises, flights, and sea voyages.

There is much positive experience in this area at the "N" Guard's Motorized Rifle Regiment (Southern Group of Forces) in particular. The whole tenor of personnel's life and service and the ideological and political-educational work there are aimed at inculcating in servicemen a sense of class self-awareness, ideological fortitude, political maturity, and readiness to honorably carry out their military duty. The system of Marxist-Leninist training, political classes, political reports, conversations, reports delivered by communist officers S. Zyablikov, V. Vashchenko, and S. Vypryazhkin, and daily life itself provide a thorough explanation of Lenin's behests on the need for vigilance and of the party's demands on the armed defenders,and concrete facts are used to expose the aggressive aspect of the imperialist states' armies. Constant attention is paid to propagandizing and explaining the law's provisions on the responsibility for divulging military and state secrets and for displaying elements of carelessness. The organization of garrison, guard, and internal services in strict accordance with regulation requirements and the strict observance of the rules governing the use of technical communications facilities and radioelectronic apparatus in exercises and in each study class all help to educate servicemen in a spirit of vigilance.

The constant concern of commanders and staffs is to improve the skills of concealing the control of troops and naval forces and of working these questions out with subordinte units and ships. All this makes it possible to instill in personnel a responsible attitude to the rules of work with official documents and to the established procedure governing official correspondence, telephone conversations, and radio transmission of commands and signals as defined by combat regulations during the organization and conduct of exercises. It is also hard to overestimate the role of frontline experience in the inculcation of vigilance.

A high level of vigilance cannot be achieved where there is no clear regulation order, where guard and watch duties are badly organized, and where breaches of military discipline are tolerated. An implacable struggle must be waged against indifference, complacency, and laxity. The inculcation in servicemen of a heightened sense of political and military vigilance ensures persistent, purposeful, and effective party political work. Special attention here should be paid to servicemen on combat and guard duty.

The purposeful molding in every Soviet serviceman of a selfless devotion to the party's cause, communist ideals, and proletarian internationalism; the fostering of thorough ideological conviction, high political and military vigilance, and the readiness to defend socialism's gains; and the performance of active and aggressive counterpropaganda work — that is the most important task of political organs and party and Komsomol organizations. Military press organs and cultural enlightenment institutions face responsible tasks in that connection.

Raised and educated by the Leninist party and surrounded by the people's concern and love, army and navy servicemen vigilantly stand guard over socialism's gains and are preparing to greet the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes in increasing vigilance and combat readiness.

Naval Air Crewman Recounts Meeting With U.S. Craft

PM101057 [Editorial Report] Moscow *IZVESTIYA* in Russian on 4 February in its Morning Edition publishes on page 3 a 1,400-word article by special correspondent N. Sautin entitled "Post Over the Ocean" and carried under the rubric "Life of the Soviet Armed Forces." Sautin describes some time spent with a missle-carrying naval air force regiment, and he describes the naval airmen's work as "strenous and truly selfless." He cites a Major Kosarev, commander of a crew, who recounts encounters with U.S. aircraft: "Aerial meetings with Americans demand coolness and circumspection. They even simulate attacks. But we do not permit any horseplay." The article cites other airmen who stress such aspects as "teamwork" and the difficult conditions under which they work.

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GORBACHEV MESSAGE READ AT GENEVA CONFERENCE

LD201048 Moscow TASS in English 1039 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 20 TASS -- Addressing the Geneva Disarmament Conference today, Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, read the text of a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the Disarmament Conference. The message reads:

"I send greetings to representatives of states who have gathered for a regular session of the Disarmament Conference.

The Soviet Union regards its participation in the Disarmament Conference with full responsibility as it understands that it is disarmament that constitutes the main path to asserting new and fair international structures and to building a safe world. It is disarmament that will release huge material and intellectual resources and make it possible to convert them to goals of construction, economic development and prosperity.

Mankind has reached a crucial point in its history and is faced with the choice of its further road: Either overcome the inertia of the past, when security was viewed primarily through the prism of positions of strength and military-technological solutions, or remain a hostage to the race with nuclear, chemical and, in the longer term some other, no less formidable weapons.

This choice between what is prompted by reason and what leads to catastrophe can be made only by all the states jointly regardless of their social systems and economic development levels."

"It must be a bold and responsible choice and its being such depends to a large extent on the states represented at the Disarmament Conference. We can no longer limit ourselves to half-measures, which would only slow down the arms race in some areas while it would continue with a vengeance in others.

In other words, the time has come for us jointly to make big strides towards ridding the world of nuclear and other weapons so that security for everyone should mean security for all.

Taking guidance from these considerations, the Soviet Union put forward early this year a comprehensive plan, the centrepiece of which is a stage-by-stage programme of the elimination of nuclear weapons. We suggest that the Damoclean sword hanging over the peoples ever since the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki be removed once and for all before the end of this century.

It is only just that the Soviet Union and the United States, which have the largest nuclear potentials, should take the first decisive step to be followed by the other nuclear powers."

"It is our profound conviction that there is only one, direct way to rid mankind of the nuclear threat, and it is to eliminate nuclear weapons altogether. Objective realities are such that the development and deployment of 'star wars' weapons is bound to spur on the arms race in every area. That is why it is necessary from the outset to put an effective international ban on space strike weapons.

The Soviet Union suggests that chemical weapons, too, should be completely eliminated by the end of this century and that the finalisation of a convention on this problem, unduly dragged out, be given a decisive impetus.

"Calling for a world without nuclear or chemical weapons, we are also prepared to go as far in reducing conventional armaments and armed forces as other states are prepared to go.

It should be stressed specifically that we suggest that all the practical measures to limit armaments and to achieve disarmament should be backed by measures of effective control and verification. The Soviet Union is as interested as any other state in being confident of strict compliance with accords.

Many provisions of our plan are directly related to the Disarmament Conference."

"Suffice it to say that the first item on its agenda is the problem of prohibiting tests, the radical solution of which, in our view, could turn the tide in the battle for the removal of the nuclear threat.

The Soviet Union for its part has been doing and continues to do everything possible to accomplish this goal. It agrees, inter alia, to the strictest verification of a nuclear weapon test ban, including on-site inspections and the use of every achievement of seismology.

As everyone knows, last year the USSR, wishing to set a good example, unilaterally halted all nuclear explosions, and then extended its moratorium to March 31, 1986. It now depends first and foremost on the United States whether the moratorium will continue beyond that date and whether it will become bilateral and subsequently multilateral.

It is to be hoped that the states participating in the conference raise their voices in favour of such a mode of actions and that the conference itself succeeds in starting businesslike talks which could lead to the complete termination of nuclear weapon tests by all, everywhere and for all times.

I wish the participants in the conference every success in accomplishing the responsible tasks facing them.

[signed] M. Gorbachev"

EDITORIAL ARTICLE EXAMINES GORBACHEV PROPOSAL

PM191725 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial Article: "Nuclear Disarmament Is a Practical Task"]

[Text] It has been estimated that the quantity of nuclear weapons now stockpiled in the world is equivalent in conventional explosives to 3 metric tons for every inhabitant of our planet.

A threat to life itself has emerged. Nuclear war would mean the deaths of hundreds of millions of people and its consequences for the climate and the environment would be such a survival impossible. This makes the problem of disarmament unprecedentedly urgent and pressing.

Proceeding from this premise, at the very start of the year the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet Government made a decision on a number of major foreign policy actions of a principled nature. The main, the pivotal action among them was a concrete program, calculated to cover a precisely determined period of time, for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons in the world.

This is not the first time such a reference point has been erected. At the dawn of the nuclear age, in 1946, the Soviet Union declared the need for a ban on the production and use of atomic weapons. In the current Soviet proposals this task is placed on a practical, businesslike footing. There is no necessity to prove that its implementation accords with the aspirations of all peoples without exception and with the increasingly forceful demands of the overwhelming majority of UN member's governments. Not a single session of the UN General Assembly is held without delegations from different countries loudly raising their voices in favor of nuclear disarmament.

The cause of nuclear disarmament is not, however, advancing one inch because of the absence of practical steps in that direction. Progress is fiercely resisted in the top echelons of power in Washington and in NATO headquarters. All sorts of "technical" and other objections are put forward. What is more, the very nature of the problem is such as to raise many complex and difficult questions in terms of how to approach its solution.

The remarkable feature of the new Soviet proposals set out in the statement by M.S. Gorbb Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, lies in the fact that they take maximum account of the obstacles which have hitherto prevented nuclear disarmament from really being implemented. Our country is proposing a concrete program to be implemented not in the remote, hazy future, but within the historically foreseeable future -- over the 15-year period remaining until the [start of the] 21st century.

Does this mean that the submission of detailed proposals of this kind, even more carefully substantiated from the Soviet viewpoint, will ensure their acceptance by those who have been resisting all such steps? It goes without saying that there can be no room for illusions about the ease of further efforts in this sphere. A major struggle lies ahead. It will be waged -- by virtue of the very content of the new Soviet proposals -- in more favorable conditions than before. All those who cherish the cause of curbing the nuclear arms race have a new peace "weapon" in their hands. That "weapon" is a clear and precise program of actions in the sphere of nuclear disarmament, which leaves no room for the various kinds of speculation or conjecture routinely employed by the West to portray the Soviet position in a distorted light and to try to pile up "doubts" and "objections" around measures designed to liberate mankind from the most terrible weapons ever to threaten our planet.

The questions of monitoring [kontrol] the observance of agreements that are reached, working out measures aimed at achieving a reduction in the level of arms while strictly observing the principle of equal and identical security that forms the basis of the military parity existing between the Soviet Union and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, and the logical transition from simpler to more complex actions in curbing the arms race all give weight to the Soviet proposals, make them feasible and convincing, and promote the struggle for a fundamental improvement of the world situation.

Where and how should we start nuclear disarmament? Those are substantive questions. Life prompts the answer to them. The most important nuclear arsenals are held by the United States and our country, which cannot but maintain its own defensive shield in an appropriate condition in the face of the insane nuclear arms race overseas.

Consequently, it is these two countries that must set an example to the other nuclear powers in actions which would make it possible to turn the reduction and subsequent elimination of nuclear arms into a real process.

That is why our country proposes, as a first step, that the Soviet Union and the United States agree to end all nuclear explosions.

In an interview with the Italian newspaper IL GIORNALE in mid-1984 President Reagan expressed the hope that a time would come "when nuclear weapons will be obsolete..." That will not happen by itself, much less when the United States expedites work to further "improve" these barbaric weapons. A total and comprehensive ban on nuclear tests would make it possible to bring us to the point that the U.S. leader termed the "obsolescence" of nuclear weapons. But even this would be inadequate since it would not remove the threat of a cataclysmic conflict using nuclear weapons.

The fundamental solution to the question lies in the final elimination of nuclear weapons. Governments, which must be depended upon to make the corresponding bold efforts, are equal to this task. It is true that there have been few cases in the history of military hardware when mutual decisions led to some weapon being removed from arsenals. But neither has there been a time in human history when mankind was threatened with the danger of universal annihilation!

The highest concentration of nuclear weapons is to be found on the territory of Europe. The Soviet Union and the United States can -- and must! -- set an example there by taking steps leading to ridding the continent of mass destruction weapons. This involves the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles -- both ballistic and cruise -- in the European zone. Their elimination, their physical destruction -- it is important to stress this since there are some unscrupulous "interpreters" of the Soviet proposals who try to cast aspersions on them, claiming that the Soviet Union will limit itself to transferring the missiles from Europe to its Asian region.

It is of course essential that the United States should commit itself to not siting its strategic and medium-range missiles in other countries and that Britain and France should not build up their own corresponding nuclear armaments. Our country is ready to take a bold step to advance the cause of disarmament by agreeing that British and French nuclear forces should not be reduced or counted during the initial stage despite the major reductions in nuclear missile arsenals being carried out by us.

Steps by the two states designed to halve the nuclear armaments capable of reaching each other's territory over a period of 5-8 years constitute an important integral part of this stage. This involves the elimination of both delivery vehicles and warheads so that each side retains no more than 6000 charges on its remaining delivery vehicles, that is to say, substantially fewer than is the case today.

This is the start of the nuclear disarmament program. A start which is impressive and based on maintaining the equilibrium, the parity achieved between the Soviet Union and the United States in the military sphere, but at much lower reciprocal levels. These reduced levels will be significant only under conditions whereby an arms race in outer space is inadmissible. What sense is there in seeking to reduce armaments on the earth, at sea, in the oceans, and in the atmosphere if outer space is going to be saturated with them!

The logic of disarmament requires that outer space should remain free of armaments. This is also demanded by the vital interests of all countries and governments. Any attempts by U.S. military circles to turn outer space into a sphere for the arms race will rebound on its own security interests. You do not have to be a military expert to work that out. The authors of the "star wars" plans are counting on having provided themselves with what they call "ramified defense" against missiles by the 21st century. The cost of such work is astounding. But if some people across the ocean are seriously thinking of rendering nuclear weapons "obsolete," then there is a straightforward way to achieve this that does not cost hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars: namely, nuclear disarmament.

The two subsequent stages of the Soviet program for the destruction of nuclear weapons are characterized by no less concreteness and breadth than the initial stage. The Soviet Union and the United States will continue the process of radically reducing their nuclear arsenals simultaneously with a ban on the creation [sozdaniye] of non-nuclear armaments based on novel physical principles which would make them approximate to means of mass destruction. Meanwhile, other nuclear powers will join this process so that, by the end of 1999, no nuclear weapons would be left on earth and they would never be revived.

The monitoring [kontrol] of the armaments being destroyed or reduced would be carried out by both national technical means and on-site inspection [inspektsiya na mestakh]. Our country is prepared to come to an arrangement on any [lyubyye] other additional monitoring measures [mery kontrolya].

Having, as their central core, the aim of nuclear disarmament, the new Soviet proposals provide for far-reaching steps in other spheres also, backed up by practical measures for monitoring [kontrol] and inspection [inspektsiya] where necessary.

Thus, it is a question of a broad program in the interests of all mankind. Even people who are very inexperienced in politics and military matters, and, still more so, governments, must realize that the alternative is self-destruction. Never before has civilization been faced with such a crucial choice. The total liquidation of nuclear weapons is a problem of significance for all mankind and it can and must be solved by the collective efforts of the entire world community.

DRAFT TREATY SUBMITTED AT MBFR TALKS FOR DISCUSSION

LD201007 Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Vienna, February 20 TASS -- A detailed draft treaty on initial reduction by the Soviet Union and the USA of land forces and arms with subsequent non-increase in the levels of armed forces and arms by the sides and measures in this connection in central Europe has been tabled on behalf of the socialist countries at the plenary meeting today at the talks on mutual force and arms cuts in central Europe. The NATO countries have also been proposed to start drawing up on its basis a mutually acceptable text of agreement. Addressing the meeting, the head of the GDR delegation pointed out that the draft treaty tabled by the socialist countries is a realistic basis for reaching agreement at Vienna.

SOVIET STANCE ON NORDIC NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE CLARIFIED

LD191310 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 0600 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] The Soviet Union has clarified its stance on a Nordic nuclear weapons-free zone and the nuclear-free status of the Baltic. The pseudonymous Yuriy Komissarov says in an article published by OULU [word indistinct] (?today) that an erroneous interpretation has been presented in the Scandinavian countries of the Soviet Union's stance on proclaiming the Baltic a nuclear-free zone. Komissarov describes as erroneous the interpretation according to which the Soviet Union would be prepared to discuss the nuclear-free status of the Baltic only in connection with more general European security problems.

Komissarov describes as consistent the stance of the Scandinavian countries according to which their position as nuclear-weapons free countries is possible only if nuclear weapons are removed from the sea area bordering them.

ADELMAN 'AGAINST' 'VERY IDEA' OF REACHING ACCORD

LD191837 Moscow TASS in English 1817 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS -- By TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev:

Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, made a speech in Philadelphia. His remarks were filled with affected elan, hypocrisy and distortions of the real state of affairs on the international scene.

"This is a critical, challenging, and exciting time for us working in arms control. To borrow a mod phrase from the 60's, the whole world is watching us," Kenneth Adelman declared. Yes, the time is indeed crucial, the time requires responsible and constructive approaches and a sincere desire to crack the problem of ridding the world of nuclear threat, slamming the door to outer space shut in front of the arms race, and reducing drastically the lethally dangerous weapon arsenals on earth.

But what did the director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency tell the world? Where do his difficulties and worries lie?

Speaking of the process of arms limitation and reduction, Kenneth Adelman stated: "I've been writing and thinking about it for the past 10 years and the fundamental questions and problems remain pretty much the same." It is appropriate to ask then: Who is to blame for that? Evidently, the answer to this question is to be found in Mr. Adelman's writings and pronouncements. For it is exactly Kenneth Adelman who made the "revelation" that nuclear arms reduction negotiations were simply a trick which the United States had to resort to in order to reassure the American people and America's allies.

But at the present time the director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency maintains that the United States devotes much attention to nuclear and space arms negotiations. The next moment he "reveals" the true meaning of that "attention": The United States is striving to reduce nuclear arms but it will not give up SDI, that is, "star wars" programs. Mr. Adelman says a path should be pursued "so that arms control and SDI can work together." Yes, this is a trick, indeed, using Adelman's own words to assert that the stockpiling of weapons to the space heights can be accompanied by arms control, means to be a very low opinion about the intellectual abilities of one's audience.

Surely, the author of such a statement must be fully aware that without a ban on the militarization of outer space there can be no cuts to strategic nuclear armaments and that if the U.S. refuses to agree to such a ban this sweet talk about "the desire" to reduce such armaments is worth a farthing. Kenneth Adelman, however, does not understand another thing: Such a trick can no longer "reassure" the American people and America's allies. Likewise, he is not aware of the fact that he looks simply funny in expressing the hope that the Russians will join the United States in fulfilling the commitment undertaken at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting with regard to the Geneva negotiations. It is Washington that demonstrates its reluctance to honor this commitment by blocking the solution of the problem of non-militarization of outer space, and in doing so, shows that it does not want the termination of the arms race on earth.

Speaking of the large-scale Soviet peace program formulated by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of January 15, 1986 Kenneth Adelman did not take the risk of even mentioning its goal -- to rid mankind of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000. The program -- "contains some potentially constructive elements", while "other elements of that proposal are pretty standard Soviet fare."

He seem to be totally unaware of the fact that the Soviet program is a vivid reflection of a consistent and principled peaceful course of the Soviet State which from the very start of the nuclear age has firmly advocated the elimination of nuclear arms.

It is evident that the director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency fails to understand the fact that the U.S. Administration, if it is indeed committed to the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons, as is frequently affirmed in Washington, is given a practical opportunity to engage in that process in earnest, and not to use the coming 10-15 years for the development of new and extremely dangerous weapons in space.

However, such Washington officials as Adelman are clearly displeased with the prospect of ridding mankind of nuclear weapons. They are against the very idea of reaching agreement with the Soviet Union. So, he keeps inventing all kinds of "arguments" and putting up artificial barriers on the road toward an accord: He totally groundlessly accuses the U.S.S.R. of "violating" the existing agreements, plays up the "problem of verification", etc., evidently forgetting that these frail sprouts planted by Washington have long withered no matter how hard American "hawks" were working to cultivate them with their speeches and all kinds of "reports".

'Hypocritical' Remarks

LD191650 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Trukatenko reports:

Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, speaking in Philadelphia, has set out the U.S. stand on the arms limitation problem. He assured that the United States earnestly seeds to reach agreement with the Soviet Union on nuclear and space arms. At the same time he tried in every way to present the matter so as to show that talks between the USSR and the USA in Geneva are being ostensibly hampered by the Soviet side, and not by the U.S. one.

To any unprejudiced observer, however, it becomes clear from Adelman's speech who in actual fact puts the spoke in the wheel of the Geneva talks. This is seen first of all from that part of the address in which the administration's spokesman extols the "star wars" programme and proclaimed the U.S. determination to go on inplementing it. Contrary to the generally-known facts which indicate that the USA had conceived the programme for the purpose of upsetting the military-strategic parity with the USSR and of creating a U.S. first-strike capability, Adelman stated taht SDI is not a problem but rather an opportunity — an opportunity not just for arms control but also for reducing the risk of nuclear war. The hypocritical nature of such assertions is also evidenced already by the fact that the United States, while speeding up the development of space strike weapons, is busy upgrading and building up its nuclear potential and, first of all, its strategic forces.

U.S. ATTEMPTS 'TO SIDESTEP'SOVIET ARMS PROPOSALS

PM191830 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb First Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column": "Still No Reply..."]

[Text] There has still been no official reply from the U.S. Administration to the Soviet proposals of 15 January. It is difficult to be openly negative about them.

That is why attempts are being made to dismember and emasculate this targeted, constructuve program and impose unacceptable provisos on it in order to deprive it of its practical sense and at the same time, create the semblance of some kind of "positive" approach to it on the part of the West.

Without proposing anything concrete for its part, Washington prefers the role of some kind of filter -- to pick out individual provisions that suit the U.S. Administration out of the stream of Soviet initiatives and ignore their comprehensive nature.

According to Western press reports the reply to the Soviet proposals has been discussed by NATO members in Brussels. It is clear from these commentaries that the U.S. delegation took a hard line and by no means showed a desire to seek agreement with the Soviet Union. This applies, first and foremost, to the Strategic Defense Initiative. According to information from NATO circles, U.S. representative Nitze told the session participants that there could be no question of rejecting the program and also expressed the totally unfounded opinion that the Soviet Union would make concessions on the matter.

Washington is trying in every possible way to sidestep or emasculate the core of the Soviet proposals -- the idea of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Sources close to NATO claim that, in Nitze's words, an "abandonment of nuclear means could only be possible if they were replaced by new types of weapons of equal force." In other words, before saving mankind from the nuclear threat they are thinking about a replacement.

Insofar as can be judged from the press reports the NATO members expressed different opinions while discussing the question of medium-range missiles in Europe. Certain of them advocated accepting the Soviet proposals. Others sought pretexts for rejecting them. A freeze on British and French nuclear arsenals, they said, runs counter to the plans for their modernization, specifically the equipping of the British navy with the U.S. Trident system. Moreover, a fuss has been raised in the West European press claiming that the elimination of U.S. medium-range means would destroy the integrity of the NATO system of deterrence and would "decouple West Europe from the United States."

In conclusion, let us return to the idea of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The U.S. President loves to number himself among the adherents to that idea. I recall how he persistently repeated to us Soviet journalists in the White House that the space umbrella would be launched only after the United States and the Soviet Union abandoned and eliminated their offensive nuclear arms. But these words were later disavowed by Washington. And the press reports about the U.S. Administration's approach to the Soviet proposals of 15 January by no means show that the White House really wants to save mankind from the nuclear threat.

U.S. ADHERES TO 'CONTRADICTORY POSITION'

PM191240 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Candidate of Technical Sciences Colonel (Reserve) V. Chernyshev under the rubric "Reading Between the Lines of the Statement": "Moment of Truth and Fantasy"]

[Text] Finally and irrevocably, the time has come to end the crazy nuclear arms race and completely bar arms from space, the Soviet Union has declared. A radical and, at the same time, realistic alternative to nuclear war, taking the interests of all peoples into account, is contained in the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It sets forth a program for the total destruction of nuclear weapons -- a program strictly calculated in time and subdivided into three specific, organically linked stages which proceed one from the other and, in a number of elements, overlap.

Naturally, this noble aim can only be achieved if the Soviet Union and the United States renounce the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms.

But representatives of the U.S. Administration try to draw a veil over this specific and practicable Soviet program and equate it with the U.S. leadership's very general statements on its alleged "desire" to free the world from nuclear weapons. In an ABC TV interview Secretary of State G. Shultz even went so far as to claim that the United States has "held this position for a long time," almost since the end of the forties. According to him, it turns out that Washington has constantly dreamed of destroying nuclear weapons and the United States has in no way been the constant initiator of the nuclear arms race throughout all 4 postwar decades in its pursuit of the chimera of military superiority.

Frankly speaking, since the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and since the Soviet Union advanced a specific nuclear disarmament program, the continuing attempts by administration spokesmen to claim that it is possible to take the "star wars" path to arrive at "the world's deliverance from nuclear weapons" are particularly striking. Could anyone in the world believe such a thing? You might think the sermons in favor of "star wars" would become obsolete now that everyone knows how the world can be rid of the nuclear cudgel within a real time span. However, the number of preachers in Washington is not yet diminishing. They are continuing to create myths. They are seeking to deceive the world public and to sow certain illusions. But politics are not built on illusions nor even on good intentions, but on real foundations, on the demands of the time, and on the interests of one's own people and of other people.

The White House continues to adhere to its contradictory position. On the one hand, the joint statement on the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting recorded the agreement by both sides that work at the talks on nuclear and space arms will be accelerated with a view to fulfilling, above all, such tasks as preventing an arms race in space and ending it on earth. On the other hand, Washington is once again stubbornly refusing to agree to the Soviet proposal for the total ban on space strike arms.

But let us assume for the moment that, as Washington frequently declares, SDI is aimed at "making an important contribution to the creation of a world free from nuclear weapons."

The official "schedule" for the "star wars" program provides for three stages: The first is to last at least 10 years, when the United States will carry out work on SDI; the second will last "several decades," during which "defensive means" will be tested, developed [razrabatyvat], and deployed; during the third stage, the United States -- provided there are "suitable technical and political conditions" -- reckons on being in a position to reduce all nuclear weapons.

So, even according to the official interpretation, the United States "reckons on being in a position" to reduce nuclear weapons in many decades' time and only then provided "suitable conditions" exist, while the conditions will be evaluated by the "star warriors" themselves at their own discretion. Somewhere in the distant "mist" of the next millennium all this might happen, perhaps not. For those who promise this now will long since have ceased to exist; no responsibility.

The Soviet Union's approach to solving the most important problems of war and peace, on whose solution the destinies not only of the Soviet and U.S. peoples, but also of all mankind depend, is fundamentally different. The Soviet Union proposes embarking without delay on the process of freeing the world from nuclear weapons, completing it within 15 years, and entering the next millennium without means of mass destruction. And, at the same time, leaving space clear, without any arms.

The United States intends to spend 10 years carrying out work on the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike arms and, at the same time, to build up and improve all nuclear arms. But under the Soviet scheme, the Soviet Union and the United States would halve the number of nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territory during the first 5-8 years and come to a decision on the total elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone. At the second stage, not later than 1990, the remaining nuclear powers would start to be involved in the nuclear disarmament process and then, all nuclear powers would totally eliminate teactical nuclear weapons.

According to the U.S. "concept," the "transitional period" lasting "several decades" -- the stage of the deployment of new arms in space and on the earth -- would begin in 10 years, that is, somewhere in the region of 1995. But under the Soviet plan, the third stage of nuclear disarmament would begin not later than the same year of 1995 and the elimination of all nuclear weapons would be completed in full.

"If it is just a question of putting an end to the nuclear threat," M.S. Gorbachev said in response to L'HUMANITE's questions, "Then why does the United States not agree in principle to the latest Soviet proposals. They provide for a far shorter, more direct, cheaper, and most importantly, safer way to remove the nuclear threat -- the total elimination of nuclear weapons. I emphasize -- safer. For the path to this goal now being proposed by the United States is hopeless."

The Soviet assessment of the state of affairs is that for every "believer" in the fantastic U.S. plan to deliver the world from the nuclear threat in Washington, there are at least 10 cynics. The "dreams" of these cynics boil down to creating the possibility for the United States to carry out nuclear aggression with impunity, drawing the Soviet Union into the space arms race, undermining its economy, widening the technological gap between the United States and Western Europe, thereby ensuring the latter's dependence on Washington, and so forth.

However, it is time for all responsible persons in Washington to embark on a realistic path and abandon all illusions. It is time they realized that the Soviet proposals constitute a kind of "moment of truth" and that Washington's response to them will once again reveal to the whole world the true aims they are pursuing with their policy.

SDI COOPERATION CREATES 'YOKE' OF 'DEPENDENCE'

LD191700 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Aleksey Grigoriyev.

The London-based GUARDIAN newspaper found a very sore spot in the British-American relationship shaped by their cooperation under the "star wars" program. The paper writes about London's anxiety -- British officials are concerned over a real possibility of a new wave of political protests against the application of American laws outside the U.S. So, why is Whitehall so concerned?

Gen James Abrahamson, who is in charge of the organization that will implement the "Strategic Defense Initiative", held a secret meeting at the Ministry of Defense of Great Britain. About 100 leading experts of research organizations, members of the business community of the country and officials from a special department of the Defense Ministry in charge of the participation in realizing the SDI were present at the meeting.

A series of new agreements on enlisting Britain in preparations for "star wars" was concluded in the development of the "memorandum of understanding" signed last December. These agreements, just as the main "memorandum," are a closely guarded secret. There is nothing surprising in that. A different thing attracts instantaneous attention -- the U.S. (yes, the U.S., not British) Department of Defense intends to make a check and classify the operations of British firms called upon to develop the technology that will be used in the "star wars" program.

That was the point where London began to feel concerned. And really, lucrative promises coming from across the ocean, solemn pledges concerning "equitable cooperation" between the United States and Western Europe in the development of a so-called "defensive space shield," assurances about the "joint use" of the newest technology turn out to be Washington's preemptory and proprietary plan to place the scientific and technical potential of the allies under control for the purpose of an early beginning of its military-space adventure.

To do that, the U.S. Administration is not only dangling a carrot before them but also reaches out for a stick. According to the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE newspaper, the United States is now intensifying pressure on Japan in order to draw it into the realization of the SDI program. Some time back, Bavarian Prime Minister Franz Josef Strauss, the chief spokesman for the American lobby in West Germany, said with frankness so characteristic of him: "I know that the American side is annoyed at Bonn's contradictory reaction to the invitation to participate in SDI." Speaking at the beginning of February in Davos at a symposium organized by the "World Economic Forum," Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, expressed "surprise" over the fact that certain Western governments were of the opinion that they were doing the United States a favor by signing contracts in the field of SDI. Perle's "surprise" resembled something of a threat.

Not surprisingly, the enlistment of new participants in the SDI program is also explained by the appetites of Western European arms manufacturing concerns which are prodding the governments of their countries into concluding relevant agreements with the Washington administration. Great Britain's British Aerospace, West Germany's Dornier and Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm, France's Matra, Italy's Agusta and other corporate giants do not bother to conceal that they would like to get their own chunk of the space pie. But here is a paradox that is a consequence of the realities of the U.S. policy toward its partners: British companies that will be awarded contracts under the SDI program, will face very stiff competition or even the terms of a 'horse race,' in the words of Gen. James Abrahamson, and as a result they will have to come up with fresh ideas in the shortest possible time, laments the London FINANCIAL TIMES.

This means that "space cooperation" advertized by Washington is rapidly acquiring features of political rightlessness and the fettering of America's partners in SDI as far as science and technology are concerned. "Reagan's initiative is an attempt to fasten the Federal Republic of Germany to the military-industrial complex of the United States, to increase Bonn's dependence on Washington which is not justified by the interests of security of the F.R.G. It will no longer be possible to cast off the yoke of that dependence. The case in point, in the final analysis, is the policy of hegemonism with a heavy reliance on force," writes the West German DIE ZEIT newspaper, dotting all i's and crossing all t's. And really, there is hardly anything that could be added to that just assessment of American neoglobalism.

SOVIET SPECIALISTS DISCUSS SDI, ARMS CONTROL

LD061334 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Studio discussion presented by unidentified moderator with arms control specialists Dr Grigoriy Khozin, Yuriy (Katasonov), Lev Semeyko and PRAVDA correspondent Vladimir Bolshakov]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on issues of nuclear disarmament until the year 2000 contains a three-stage plan to eliminate both nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles within the next 15 years. Today we bring you the second discussion in the series. Here is Lev Semeyko:

[Semeyko] In the new Soviet initiative, the problem of nonmilitarization of space is linked with the issue of nuclear disarmament. In the light of the Soviet proposal, the SDI program becomes pointless. Why develop space weapons if 15 years later there won't be left any arms against which, according to Washington, they are being developed? Why should hundreds of combat stations with laser and particle beam weapons fly above our heads?

[Announcer] Now the view of Dr Grigoriy Khozin.

[Khozin] The USSR links nuclear disarmament with the issue of banning space weapons, otherwise its plan will be a half-measure. It would simply be impossible to carry out. How is it possible to speak of eliminating arms and, at the same time, to insist on developing new systems of weapons? This is a serious, profound proposal and it must cover the entire range of technical activity.

[Announcer] Yet the United States claims that these are defensive and not offensive weapons. Why does the USSR oppose their development so insistently, then? After all, if these weapons are not offensive as the Washington leaders point out, let them be developed, for the Soviet Union says it's high time to start trusting one another. Dr Grigoriy Khozin:

[Khozin] The United States view is that this is developing defensive weapons which will make nuclear arms useless and and obsolete. Let's allow that for a moment. Some time ago West German specialist analyzed about 600 documents that have appeared in the United States over the SDI, starting with government papers and ending with work by private groups. The West German scientists have drawn this conclusion: The SDI is a program that is not oriented to peace; it is oriented to solving political problems by military means. This program cannot permit largely reaching the objective that the President speaks publicly about. [Sentence as heard] Even if we take the former line of reasoning, we cannot agree with the claims by some American researchers that the development of even defensive weapons, if we allow that for a moment, does not amount to raising the levels of the combined military capabilities of the country. It has also been recognized already that a system like the SDI cannot ensure 100 percent protection; therefore, hard as others try to convince us of its defensive nature, the system will be meaningful and will justify the trillions of dollars spent on it only if the country that has it will deliver the first nuclear strike on nuclear facilities of the adversary meant for retaliation. The SDI system will then be able to weaken additionally an already weakened retaliatory strike.

Our orientation to a ban on nuclear arms is to rule out the chance of a situation developing when one side, having placed defensive weapons at its disposal, can afford counting on success in such an adventure. I must also note that defensive means have always provoked the development of new offensive arms. The SDI instigates the arms race. It creates distrust and because of being complex, enhances the danger of nuclear war starting by accident.

[Announcer] If the SDI is so dangerous both for the Soviet Union and for the United States to the same extent, who is really interested in carrying it out? Who is really trying to prove that the SDI will help rid the world of the nuclear menace? Here is Yuriy (Katasonov).

(Katasonov) The only quarter truly interested in the SDI are the mighty military industrial corporations of the United States. They are doing their best to conceal the truth formulated back in ancient times by the Roman orator Cicero, who said that money was the motive force of war. Talking about a window of vulnerability, about a Soviet peril, the military-industrial complex has taken away from the Americans $2 trillion since 1980. To this very day some United States politicians keep claiming that this window of vulnerability has not been closed yet. The arms race goes on and more statements are made about the United States lagging behind it. The military-industrial complex does not wish to stop the process of the arms race. We can now see that more trillions of dollars are considered for spending. The idea is to carry through the SDI, which will allow the munitions concerns to get guaranteed profits for several more decades.

[Announcer] And now a point raised by Vladimir Bolshakov:

[Bolshakov] We can see there are influential quarters in the United States that like to secure super profits for themselves in the future. The military-industrial complex is doing its utmost to rally public opinion disarmament. [sentence as heard]. The monopolies that get away with selling to the Pentagon ordinary hammers at $20 or $60 apiece are looting their fellow citizens. Understandably, this cannot go on for long. An economy even as powerful as that of the United States cannot be constantly overstretched under the effect of the arms race.

[Announcer] How does the arms race influence the American economy? Vladimir Bolshakov:

[Bolshakov] Compare two figures; the $2 trillion that have already been spent on the arms race in the past 5 years and the $2 trillion of the United States federal debt . The arms race is pushing the United States to bankruptcy and its economy to a breakdown. The deficit is mounting. The Americans are getting poorer. Advocates of the arms race claim the race is built for the economy. If that is true, the aftereffects of using dope are the same for the economy as for artificially stimulating an athlete; decline, exhaustion and semi-coma. For each billion dollars invested in the munitions industry, it's possible to create 75,000 jobs. But double that figure can be created in the civilian industries.

The Americans are not better off due to the arms race; their real wages decreased by 11 percent between 1973 and '84. Official statistics show there are 8 million jobless in the United States now, but one in four jobless draws an unemployment benefit. Nearly 6 million don't get it. That's equal to the number of jobless without benefits 3 years ago at the moment of a sharp economic decline when there were 11 million unemployed. Thirty-three million Americans live below the official poverty line, but the SDI means record high spending in a fight against nuclear arms. The Soviet program to destroy nuclear arms offers a release of vast funds from the arms race to channel into solutions of pressing problems.

[Announcer] Some political leaders in the United States claim the arms race is needed for national security in order to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union and to talk to the Soviet Union from a position of force. That is why allegedly sacrifices have to be made. Vladimir Bolshakov:

[Bolshakov] But that's an illusion. The United States will not be able to get military superiority. The path to genuine security for the United States lies not in a search for new military technologies, not in whipping up the arms race, but in moving over to disarmament.

The USSR suggests just that -- without impairing the security of either the United States or itself to ensure at the first stage, as proposed in our program, security at lower levels of armaments and in the long run at the nuclear-free level. War cannot resolve the dispute between the two social systems. As a result of nuclear disaster there won't be anyone left to resolve what system was better. Many Western policymakers cannot unfortunately overcome the barrier of distrust to the Soviet Union that has been cultivated for years. Mikhail Gorbachev's statement says that the task of ridding humanity of the nuclear menace will have to be solved by people of our generation.

[Announcer] But the issue of the arms race concerns not only the USSR and the United States, not only capitalism and socialism. The consequences of the arms race are burdensome for all. The Soviet statement provides the alternative to the arms race. Vladimir Bolshakov:

[Bolshakov] Nuclear disarmament would make the life of humanity healthier. The arms race is having a disruptive effect, not only on the economy of the United States, but also on the world economy, on the international relations in all their aspects -- scientific, cultural and other contacts, the human morals and psyches. When I was staying in Geneva for the Soviet-American summit, children arrived there from many countries, including the United States. It can be gathered from what they said and wrote in their letters that from their cradles they grew up in a state of fear for their future. The human psyche, the human outlook is shaped amid this fear. We must not maim our children.

LATE REPORT: VELIKHOV SEES POSSIBLE SDI ACCORD

OW201207 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] According to Moscow correspondent Kobayashi, Vice President Velikhov of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who is close to General Secretary Gorbachev, touched on SDI, the Strategic Defense Initiative, in his interview with NHK on 19 February. Velikov stated that if the United States should positively promise not to deploy weapons in space, the research work could be approved.

When asked in the interview what can be expected from the U.S.-Soviet summit this year while the United States persistently attempts to promote its SDI program, Vice President Velikhov said that it could be expected that accords would be reached on such issues as the mutual suspension of nuclear tests and the reduction of intermediate nuclear force.

Touching on SDI, Velikhov further stated: We think there are some other ways, different from those in the past, to reach an accord. That is, the research project can be approved for the sake of research. If the United States should confine itself to the research work and promise not to deploy arms in space, the Soviet Union might give its approval.

Such were the remarks made by Vice President Velikhov, and it was the first time that a high-ranking Soviet official had ever made such remarks on the U.S. SDI research project.

Vice President Velikhov's remarks are seen to indicate that the Soviet Union, noting no change in the U.S. position on the SDI issue, intends to take a flexible attitude on the issue so as to achieve concrete and fruitful results at the U.S.-Soviet summit scheduled this year.

CEMA 'NEW MATERIALS' MEETING OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD180836 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0817 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 18 Feb (TASS) -- The first session of the standing commission on cooperation in the sphere of new materials and technologies opened in the Soviet capital today.

This organ of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was set up by a CEMA session in order to speed up the development of scientific and technical cooperation in the sphere of new materials and technologies, and their production and processing. Interaction in this sphere is an important integral part of the comprehensive program of scientific and technical progress for the CEMA members, calculated up to the end of the century.

CEMA REPRESENTATIVE VIEWS SOCIALIST COOPERATION

PM141536 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 p 2

[Article by A. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR's permanent representative at CEMA: "Cooperation Increases Strength"]

[Text] To achieve truly revolutionary changes in science, technology, and production in a short time and to attain the highest level of social labor productivity -- this is the task the fraternal socialist countries have set themselves. Their desires have been embodied in the Comprehensive Program for the CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000, adopted at the 41st (Extraordinary) CEMA Session. In terms of its scale and significance, it surpasses all previously known international projects. Many thousands of scientists, specialists, and workers, and economic and party leaders will be drawn into the orbit of close cooperation in the very near future. A clear understanding of the importance of the upcoming work and high responsibility are required of them.

The objective need for ever greater rapprochement among the socialist countries stems from the very essence of socialism. This conclusion reflected in the draft new edition of the CPSU Program is corroborated by the CEMA countries' experience, which has graphically demonstrated that cooperation increases the fraternal states' strength in socialist building. The further pooling of our strength has become a vital necessity dictated by both internal and external realities. The acceleration of scientific and technical progress is the chief lever for enhancing production efficiency. In the process of this work real preconditions are created for further uniting our countries and broadening and deepening our cooperation.

The external factor is also of substantial significance. Imperialist states are trying increasingly actively to use scientific and technical progress for their own ends and gamble on it in their struggle against socialism. The programs they have adopted in recent years are overtly or covertly aimed at isolating the socialist countries from world scientific and technical achievements with the help of various restrictions and prohibitions and slowing down our development. It may be said that precisely the sphere of scientific and technical progress is today the most important sector of economic competition between the two systems -- socialism and capitalism.

In this situation the question of concentrating the socialist community's strength and resources in the decisive directions of scientific and technical progress has acquired special topicality.

The initiative of our party and the Soviet Government to accelerate the preparation of the comprehensive program met with active support in the fraternal countries: It took just 2 months to agree on the draft. Taking world development trends and internal tasks into consideration, directions such as the application of electronic equipment in the national economy, comprehensive automation, nuclear power generation, new materials and technologies, and biotechnology were included in the adopted program as priority directions.

The vanguard heights which it is planned to scale in these directions speak for themselves. By employing electronic equipment in the national economy, for example, it is proposed to considerably increase the average annual growth rates for national income and labor productivity in all spheres of activity and to reduce the materials- and energy-intensiveness of production by 1.5-2 times. Comprehensive automation based on flexible production systems will make it possible to reduce the time and cost of assimilating new products by 1.5-2 times, increase labor productivity 100-400 percent, reduce the number of maintenance personnel, and create conditions for creative and attractive labor. And the achievements of biotechnology are called upon to speed up the resolution of the food problem, raise health care to a qualitative new level, and improve the state of the environment.

In all, the program embraces 93 major problems. On each one of them we have to carry out a wide range of research and development, making it possible to attain the highest standards of equipment and technology. However, these results are not an end in themselves. The principal feature of the adopted comprehensive program is its practical thrust.

Hitherto the majority of our agreements on scientific and technical cooperation have provided for the drawing up of technical documentation or the production of experimental models of machines, technological installations, instruments, and materials. But the ultimate goal of the program's targets is the rapid and large-scale assimilation of production and the organization of sales and reciprocal deliveries. Already this year it is planned to put into production the results of work on 19 problems, while during the 5-year plan as a whole we are faced with introducing approximately 80 percent of all planned developments. In other words, it is a question of achieving high economic results in the national economy without delay.

The adopted program proceeds from the interests of all the fraternal countries. Accordingly, it is organically linked with our internal scientific, technical, and production plans. Whichever of its problems we take, be it the creation of supercomputers, fast reactors, or new medicinal preparations, the same task can also be found in the draft Basic Guidelines for the Country's Economic and Social Development. Thus, the fulfillment of our pledges under the program will directly contribute to the development of the Soviet economy. Taking this into account, starting this year, its targets are being included in all our internal plans with the allocation of the necessary financial, labor, material, and technical resources. And as of next year they will be allocated to a special section in the state plan.

Party and government decisions clearly define the order of work under the comprehensive program and the principles of cooperation among all the components involved in it. The organization of work in the country as a whole has been entrusted to the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. It is planned that the realization of each of the five priority directions be directed at the level of deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers. Involved in scientific leadership are leading scientists such as A. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Vice Presidents Ye. Velikhov, K. Frolov, and Yu. Ovchinnikov; and B. Paton, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

Responsibility for resolving individual problems incorporated in the program is entrusted in our country to approximately 30 ministries and departments that are called upon to play the role of head ministries and departments. Their leaders are obliged to ensure the proper pace for carrying out work, the achievement of high scientific and technical results, and the rapid assimilation of new equipment, technologies, and materials in production on the basis of specialization and collaboration with the CEMA countries. Direct practical work on resolving problems is to be carried out at the level of scientific research and planning and design organizations acting as head organizations.

The member countries' unanimous decision to entrust Soviet organizations with the role of head organizations for all 93 problems under the program was an acknowledgement of the high prestige of our science and of the potential accumulated by it. Their role will be played by the intersectorial scientific and technical complexes now being set up by decision of the party and the government, leading academy and sector institutes, and science-and-production associations. Precisely these are to be the chief component resolving the entrusted problem and the coordinators of all the work being conducted on it both in our country and in the fraternal states. For this the head organizations are granted extensive rights to develop direct ties with partners in CEMA, including the right to conclude contracts for the mutual transfer of documentation, experimental models, and corresponding instruments, equipment, and materials.

The head organizations are faced with crucial tasks. On a scientific plane they have to concretize the ultimate and interim goals, substantiate the reality of achieving them, outline ways to resolve the problem, and break it down into individual tasks. Taking experience, potential, and interest into account, it is necessary to distribute these tasks among the Soviet and foreign partners and organize monitoring of work progress, the prompt exchange of results, and the performance of tests. The head organizations are also responsible for preparing proposals and documentation for the production assimilation of innovations.

The rapid and in many ways unexpected nature of the development of modern science, techniques, and technology advances to the forefront the requirement for maximum flexibility. This means that organizational forms, the communications system, and the system for providing finance and resources must envisage potential for maneuvering, thus enabling the head organizations to redirect their resources and means in a more promising direction in good time. Taking the international nature of the program into account, it is necessary to enshrine all this beforehand in corresponding contracts and agreements.

Tardiness and manifestations of bureaucracy and red tape are inadmissible in this work. The comprehensive program is virtually in operation already. Therefore all questions that remain open must be resolved within reduced times. Initiative, enterprise, and great efficiency and responsibility are particularly essential at the present stage. The head ministries and their party committees must establish effective control over the course of things, combining effective assistance with high demandingness and exactingness. It is precisely ministry workers who must help the head organizations to cope with the tasks of the "launch period" -- the elaboration of work programs, suggestions as to possible partners, specific targets for the fulfillment of research, development, and planning work, and technical and economic substantiations. In short, all the documents that will serve as the basis for concluding economic agreements and contracts. Ministry and department workers in turn have a right to count on active assistance and support from the organs and apparatus of CEMA, for which the comprehensive program is the chief task.

It is necessary right from the start to orient ourselves toward the practical assimilation of the results of research and development. The rapid introduction of new things is not always easy. Therefore it is planned to carry out the process of preparing for production, creating new capacities, and modernizing existing ones in parallel with the development of new equipment, so as to prevent a gap between issuing the last draft and beginning series production. For this, when preparing documents, preference must be given to agreements of a comprehensive nature embracing the whole work cycle -- from scientific research to the production and sales of output.

The question of efficient new forms of cooperation based on direct ties and of the creation of joint enterprises and organizations of the CEMA countries demands special attention. Two Soviet-Bulgarian science-and-production associations have been operating in the sphere of machine tool building since last October, and a multilateral agreement has been signed on the formation of the "Interrobot" Science-and-Production Association. All possibile help must be given to these collectives in developing them and organizing efficient work. But the chief thing is to accumulate and generalize their useful experience, which can be used in the creation of new joint organizations.

Unfortunately, work on realizing the comprehensive program has not at once gathered the necessary momentum in all ministries. There are examples where the proposed draft agreements outline targets that are not high enough and fail to make proper demands on the technical standard of mutually delivered output. To draw the proper conclusions from such facts is just half the matter. In head organizations and ministries and within CEMA it is necessary to create an atmosphere of intolerance toward backward or insufficiently promising scientific and technical decisions. And, conversely, bold, revolutionary proposals must receive all possible support.

Our country is approaching the 27th party congress, whose decisions will be our guide for action for many years to come. We are at the very start of great and complex work, an inalienable part of which is the realization of the Comprehensive Program of the CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000. Its significance was clearly defined in M.S. Gorbachev's talks with the heads of government delegations and secretaries of the fraternal parties' central committees who participated in the 41st (Extraordinary) CEMA Session, when it was emphasized that the CPSU regards the implementation of the comprehensive program as an all-state and all-party political task.

GOODS TRANSIT PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH SFRY, HUNGARY

LD161606 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1242 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Budapest, February 16 (TANJUG) -- Soviet, Hungarian and Yugoslav railwaymen have agreed to make the transit of goods across Hungarian territory from the Soviet Union to Yugoslavia and vice versa, more efficacious than up to now.

At a consultation held in the border town of Nyiregyhaza, top railway executives of the three countries have signed a protocol on the transport to Yugoslavia across Hungarian territory this year of about 1.3 million tonnes of Soviet goods, and to the Soviet Union about one million tonnes of Yugoslav goods. This would be about 200 thousand tonnes more than last year.

KORIONOV VIEWS WESTERN RESPONSE TO CPSU DOCUMENTS

PM181819 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by political observer Vitaliy Korionov: "Impotence of Detractors"]

[Text] The closer we get to the day of the opening of the 27th CPSU Congress, the more world interest is mounting in the forthcoming notable event. Not only Communists and all supporters of the cause of socialism, but also our overt foes are admitting that the congress of a party which is the leading and guiding force of an enormous socialist power will be an event of world importance. Hence the very lively universal interest in the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program and other precongress documents.

The fighters for the peoples' bright future see in these documents a spiritual weapon helping to beat back the ferocious attacks of imperialist reaction. The more obviously the historically doomed nature of imperialism is revealed, the more persistently its ideological arms bearers are striving to instill in the peoples the idea that their struggle for freedom and peace is futile. The reason for the tremendous international response to the CPSU's precongress documents is that they inspire the champions of peace and energize them. On familiarizing themselves with the documents with which our party is going forth to its 27th congress, those taking part in the anti-imperialist struggles are convinced of the correctness of Lenin's idea that when it is a case of questions of predicting the future and of bold practical activity aimed at implementing it, you can rely on the Communists.

Of course, communism's foes would very much like to distract the peoples' attention from the program document of Lenin's party, which is paving the way for mankind to a world without wars and weapons, without violence and exploitation. But, of course, it is impossible to keep it quiet.

The majority of leading mass media of the capitalist countries agree in recognizing the exceptional importance of the CPSU's precongress documents. They admit that these documents are based on a realistic analysis of processes taking place within our country and in the international arena, and clearly describe the strategic avenues of the forthcoming work of the party and country and of our foreign policy.

The most burning issue for mankind today is the avoidance of the threat of nuclear war. Socialism views man's salvation from this threat as its historic vocation. In implementing it not in words but in deeds, it has achieved the point where for over four decades now the world has been protected from the most terrible danger. The heralds of the policy of imperialist war and aggression would pay dearly to block off from the peoples the truth about the historical mission of the new social system.

But that is not given to them. Every objective person can see that the countries which proclaim such great constructive plans as the USSR and the other fraternal states do cannot fail to be vitally interested in long-term, lasting peace. This truth is so obvious that even bourgeois newspapers have to admit it.

"The very scope of the USSR's economic plans," the Japanese newspaper ASAHI notes, "is evidence of the socialist giant's peace-loving aspirations. Moscow needs the relaxation of tension and dialogue to implement its epoch-making designs."

A characteristic statement was also heard from the LOS ANGELES TIMES: The draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program is one of the most important ideological documents of the past 25 years.

The U.S. newspaper drew special attention to the fact that the CPSU advocates normal, stable relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, which presupposes noninterference in internal affairs, respect for each other's interests, and the recognition and practical implementation of the principles of identical security and the establishment of the greatest possible trust on this basis. The CPSU believes, the newspaper notes, that the differences in social systems and ideologies are no reason for tense relations.

The socialist world and its leading force -- the Soviet Union -- have during their existence proved so convincingly what great achievements they can cope with that the anticommunists and anti-Soviets must more and more frequently speak of socialism and its prospects with unconcealed respect.

Above THE WASHINGTON POST report on the USSR's objectives for the next few decades the headline read: "Russians Propose Doubling Industrial Production Output." "The Soviet Union," the Italian newspaper CORRIERE DELLA SERA wrote, "has outlined a very broad program which should make a fundamental shift in all directions and fields." The Austrian newspaper KURIER commented: "The main impression is that the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program is realistic," while the British THE ECONOMIST stressed the aspect that "the new CPSU leadership has no intention of expending energy in vain."

It is indicative that "respectable" bourgeois press organs are warning that this time the Soviet plans must be treated particularly seriously. In the USSR, they note, "important changes" are taking place and the Soviet Union is issuing "a bold challenge." The authors of articles in these publications note "Moscow's realistic way of assessing the thrust of the historical process." For instance, FORTUNE magazine, the organ of U.S. big business, warns: "It would be rash to dismiss the Soviet leadership's initiatives."

Of course, there is no shortage of hysterical anticommunist people in the West now either. Malicious anti-Soviet publications in the United States like THE WASHINGTON TIMES or the magazine PROBLEMS OF COMMUNISM are particularly raging, endeavoring to persuade the reader that the Soviet land will be unable to achieve the goals put forward by the CPSU.

The task of these hacks is come what may to belittle the historical gains of socialism, to distort the true meaning of our people's creative plans, and to cast doubt on the possibility of their implementation. They seek out in our press items about difficulties and shortcomings in the Soviet economy which we ourselves do not conceal and try on this basis to persuade the unsophisticated Western reader of the "fantastic nature" of the Soviet people's constructive plans. How impoverished these gentlemen's imagination is! You only have to recall how many times they have predicted the "inexorable collapse" of the Soviet state beneath the blows of Hitler's war machine and the Soviet people's "inability" rapidly to restore the war-destroyed economy.

Of course, the anti-Soviets and anticommunists do not want to admit that it is on the path of socialism that the Soviet people are achieving impressive successes. They would very much like to dim the radiance of the socialist beacon. That is why they are resorting to all kinds of ploys, even, for instance the above-mentioned FORTUNE magazine does, posing as some kind of well-wishers, asserting that things in the USSR would go even better if our country were to return to the bosom of... "a market economy" or more simply, capitalism. In turn, in an article by two "men of science," S. Bialer and J. Afferica, THE NEW YORK TIMES declares that our people's constructive program could be achieved only as a result of "radical changes in the basis of the structure of the political and economic system."

But it is in vain that these circles nurture the hope that the CPSU and Soviet people will turn from Lenin's path leading to the ultimate goal, communism. We have had and have one general perspective -- the triumph of communism. And far-sighted figures in the West understand that.

The British writer James Aldridge has spoken aptly on this subject. Talking of those who "are in control in the West," he notes: "Their particular hatred is aroused by the fact that the goals set in the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program and directed toward the 21st century not only provide for the conservation of the system despite all threats, but also reflect total confidence in it, making it possible to plan the future as a reality. But my God, they are praying in the corridors of some foreign offices, my God, surely something can be done to stop the USSR's headway?" No, those gentlemen do not have the means. And J. Aldridge stresses with complete justification that to anyone who approaches the new edition of the CPSU Program objectively, "it is obvious that it is full of confidence in the implementation of what has been projected. This document proves that man's advance toward socialism and communism is irreversible."

Yes, however zealous the anticommunists, man's advance toward freedom and peace, socialism and communism is unstoppable.

NONUSE OF FORCE PACT 'SABOTAGED' BY U.S., UK

PM191204 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Soldatov: "United Nations: Deliberate Sabotage"]

[Text] New York -- At the recent session of the UN special committee on increasing the effectiveness of the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations, the task set by the 40th UN General Assembly session -- elaborating a draft declaration on the nonuse of force in international relations as an intermediate stage on the path to the elaboration of a world treaty on the nonuse of force in relations between states -- was not carried out.

The reason is as simple as the basic rules of arithmetic. For over 9 years now the Soviet Union and the other socialist states have been proposing that agreement be reached on a draft declaration which would condemn and prohibit the use of force in relations between states. On the basis of the declaration it would then be possible to conclude a world treaty on the nonuse of force. The declaration is necessary, the socialist countries' representatives said, in order to reaffirm and further develop the principle of the nonuse of force in international relations in the conditions of the nuclear age, when the danger of the use of mass destruction weapons exists.

The declaration, which the UN General Assembly by an overwhelming vote instructed the special committee to draft, absolutely must prohibit the use of all weapons, nuclear and conventional, and the threat of their use. The adoption of the declaration would contribute to the improvement of the international situation and to the development of trust between countries and would reduce the danger of a nuclear conflict.

In the special committee, composed of representatives from 35 countries, only the United States and Britain categorically opposed the elaboration of a draft declaration. The tone of their spokesmen's speeches was calmer than in past years, but the substance of the objections was the same.

Why is the idea of the elaboration of a declaration "dangerous and unproductive" from their viewpoint? The U.S. and British spokesmen referred above all to the fact that the principle of the nonuse of force in international affairs is contained in the UN Charter, so there is no sense, apparently, in reiterating it. But this argument, it was pointed out in the debate, is groundless. FRG representative K. Bokalek said, for example, that "in West Germany's bilateral relations with its eastern neighbors and in multilateral relations, joint statements on the nonuse of force (in the settlement of disputes -- V. Soldatov) are an important factor." This pledge is contained in treaties concluded by the FRG with a number of socialist countries. Obviously it would not have been incorporated in the treaties if the countries signing them had not considered this principle important.

During the committee's sessions spokesmen for a number of countries have drawn attention to that fact that in recent years practically all important international documents have contained a provision on the nonuse of force in relations between states. This principle, in particular, is contained in the Helsinki Final Act.

It was also reflected in the Soviet-American joint statement on the results of the Geneva summit. Nuclear war, the document says, must never be unleashed; there cannot be any winners in a nuclear war. The statement stresses the importance of preventing any war between the Soviet Union and the United States -- nuclear or conventional.

This commitment is important to relations between nuclear powers and no less vital for relations between large states and small countries. Today military force is most often used against small countries, the Greek representative on the committee V. Patronas stressed, and he stated that his country welcomes the efforts to "elaborate a draft declaration on the nonuse of force in international relations as soon as possible."

The United States and Britain are trying to nip these efforts in the bud. They are stubbornly trying to retain a free hand for violent action against nonaligned states. A declaration, not to mention a world treaty, on the nonuse of force in international relations would prevent the United States and its junior partner from using or threatening force and from using political and economic pressure against countries conducting an independent domestic and foreign policy.

In particular, a declaration and world treaty would prevent Washington from supplying the "contras" in Nicaragua and Savimbi's gangs in Angola with weapons. A declaration and world treaty would prevent the United States from sending aircraft carriers to the coast of Libya. Therefore, the United States and Britain deliberately sabotaged work on the elaboration of a declaration on the nonuse of force in international relations.

WEST LAUNCHES 'VICIOUS CAMPAIGN' AGAINST UNESCO

LD171053 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Ougadougou, February 17 TASS -- Following the withdrawal of the USA and Britain from UNESCO, the Western press has unleashed a vicious campaign to erode the prestige of that organization, an article published by the Burkina Faso governmental newspaper SIDWAYA says.

The Western mass media and certain officials in the West demand reforms in UNESCO. However, they neither offer convincing arguments nor suggest realistic measures.

This campaign is aimed at justifying the U.S. and British withdrawal from the organization and political motives behind it are obvious.

In the past few years UNESCO has made considerable efforts to improve its performance in various fields. As for the reforms, UNESCO Secretary General Amadou Mahtar M'bow has repeatedly admitted that they are useful and needed in view of the character of such a large international organization as UNESCO. Such reforms are quite normal.

The activities of UNESCO are at present supported by most of the countries. The organization made a major contribution to the drafting and implementation of many important programs and to the struggle for a new international information order. African countries associate UNESCO with a drive for eradicating illiteracy and with a search for solutions to other social problems.

The attempts to hamper the activities of UNESCO are regrettable, the newspaper stresses, because its aim is to contribute to the development of relations among peoples and to ensure justice and respect for law, human rights and the rights of the peoples in the world.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES IRAN-IRAQ WAR

LD190942 Moscow TASS in English 0837 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshoev reports:

At the request of the Arab countries' group, the U.N. Security Council has begun to discuss the Iran-Iraq armed conflict which has become aggravated again. It is being emphasized in U.N. circles that an earliest cessation of the sanguinary war which has been going on for more than five years now and a political solution to contentious issues between Iran and Iraq would meet the interests of the two countries and the cause of stability in the region and in the world as a whole.

The discussion was opened by Chedli Klibi, secretary-general of the League of Arab States, who urged the U.N. Security Council to take practical measures without delay to bring about an end to the war and to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the conflict in accordance with the U.N. Charter. The stand of the Iraqi leadership was set out by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs of Iraq. 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic, pointed out that the devastating war had resulted in a tremendous loss of life and suffering, and in the depletion of manpower and material resources of the two countries. A continuation of the war and of the senseless bloodshed, which is fraught with the threat of an expansion of the conflict, he said, puts international peace and security in jeopardy.

Iran declined to participate in the U.N. Security Council's discussion of this matter.

PENTAGON COMPUTER BAN CONTRARY TO GENEVA SPIRIT

PM191441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov report: "Sabotaging Scientific Exchange"]

[Text] New York, 18 Feb -- It has become known here that on a command from the Pentagon, new restrictions are being imposed on scientific and technical ties between the USSR and the United States.

Thus access to a number of computer systems is being closed to Soviet scientists. Open publications on these systems are also being "closed." The Pentagon officials try to justify the ban in terms of "national security objectives." But it is well known that such computer technology is widely used for various scientific research purposes and is even used by students and postgraduate students.

As representatives of scientific circles note, this "quarantine" goes against the Soviet-American statement on the results of the Geneva summit meeting. It expresses the sides' intention to expand the program of scientific exchanges. That, T. Everhart, president of Illinois University, stated, is why the Pentagon's order is arousing such sharp criticism from academic circles. "We have fruitful experience of cooperation with Soviet scientists," he notes. "Ending this cooperation will be detrimental to our science and to the country as a whole."

U.S. PONDERS 'ARMED INTERFERENCE' IN PHILIPPINES

LD191353 Moscow TASS in English 1302 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

The Pentagon has set about preparing for a direct armed interference in the Philippines. The newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN reports that about 2,000 Marines from among the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force" stationed on the Japanese island of Okinawa have been additionally brought to the Philippines.

At the same time 300 instructors from among the so-called "Green Berets" who specialise in sabotage and punitive operations have been airlifted to the Philippines. They have been directed to urgently train the units of the 16,000-strong U.S. military contingent stationed there in tactics of mass terror against civilian population and in suppression of protest demonstrators.

The newspaper ASAHI EVENING NEWS reports that earlier the forces of the U.S. Seventh Fleet suddenly cancelled exercises which were to be held off the Japanese island of Iwo Jima in the central Pacific. According to the local press, they received an order to be in a state of constant alert for a possible raid on Manila.

The TOKYO SHIMBUN writes that the recent presidential elections in the Philippines were held under the threat of a U.S. intervention, since the units of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed there were given a command to start combat actions in the event of a so-called aggravation of the situation. The newspaper stresses that Washington is prepared to do everything to retain its bases in that country, the bases which keep an eye on the entire South East Asia, the central Pacific, and are in control of lanes to the Indian Ocean and to the Persian Gulf area.

However, despite the Pentagon's blackmail, mass demonstrations are going in Manila and other parts of the Philippines in a demand for a withdrawal of U.S. troops from the country.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN GRENADA 'DIED IN DISHONOR'

LD191852 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Excerpts] United States Air Force One on Thursday will land in the Point Salines airport on Grenada to bring the head of the American Administration to the island in the Caribbean trampled underfoot by American invaders in October of 1983. Grenada was invaded on orders from President Reagan himself. Seven thousand crack troops were sent to overthrow a legitimate democratic government in Grenada and establish an order that would suit Washington. President Reagan now could see for himself, if he wished to, the results of his decision.

However, this is not the purpose of his visit to Grenada. A meeting with the leaders of a number of pro-American Caribbean countries, which is going to take place during the visit, is not his chief aim either. His main intention is to pay tribute to the memory of the American soldiers killed in the Grenada operation, soldiers that died in dishonor for a wrong cause.

Last spring President Reagan laid a wreath at a cemetery in Bitburg, Federal Germany, where war criminals, members of the Nazi SS, are buried. Now he is going to lay a wreath at a monument to the victors of Grenada, if victor is the right name for those who have trampled underfoot the sovereignty of a tiny country and have thrown it back by many years.

The wreath to be laid by the President is a peculiar symbol. It symbolizes power politics Washington is going to use again and again in relations with countries that for some reason are not to its liking. The American President is going to Grenada to demonstrate his commitment to the policy of brigandage which is now being called neo-globalism.

U.S. AID TO CONTRAS 'HINDERING' NICARAGUANS

LD191813 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1210 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 19 Feb (TASS) -- TASS commentator Sergey Staroselskiy writes:

Larry Speakes, White House deputy press secretary, has tried at his latest briefing to justify U.S. aid to the Nicaraguan "contras" by alleging that the Sandinist government "does not observe the principles of the revolution." Well then, let's have a look, he suggested to journalists, at the situation in Nicaragua as regards human rights, the press and the church.

The U.S. Administration knows perfectly well that aid to the "contras," which it is stubbornly trying to persuade Congress to expand on behalf of "defending human rights," is slowing down socio-economic development of Nicaragua and is hindering the full implementation of the right of Nicaraguans to live and work in peace and to decide their fate for themselves.

U.S. UNABLE TO ADAPT POLICIES TO CHANGES

LD162242 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Feb 86

[From the 'International Panorama' program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Excerpts] In Nicaragua, the war goes on, and efforts to find a political solution to the problem and put an end to the bloodshed are continuing. Everything is held up by the position of the United States, which categorically refuses to deal with Nicaragua and continues to support the contras. The contras also rely on the support of Central American governments such as Honduras, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. Recently, however, some shifts have been noticeable here. I am getting the impression that the leaders of Costa Rica, Guatemala, and even Honduras have started to behave a little more cautiously, more realistically, shall we say. The United States, of course, is in a very strong position there, and the local oligarchy is afraid of being left alone with its peoples. Nevertheless, history does not stand still. The shifts I am talking about are very slight ones, as yet even microscopic. But what is important is to see not the statistical picture, but the growing tendencies that are arising. These tendencies clearly go against U.S. hegemonism.

The ideas of the Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez are interesting in this connection. He suggests that, I quote, the Americans are not managing to adapt their policy and strategy to the changes taking place in the world. Nicaragua, the president says, is a very serious problem for the United States from their point of view, but they have gotten so used to the theories of the 1950's that they cannot see the forest for the trees. The real trees are a continent situated alongside the United States, Latin America, which is on the brink of a social explosion. This is what will become, and very soon too, a real headache for the United States. I am convinced, the president goes on, that if the current situation continues, even the most conservative and authoritarian governments will become hostile to the United States. If I might be permitted to advise the U.S. leaders, and I shall be so bold as to do so, the president says, then I would suggest that they should seriously reexamine their strategic conceptions.

Well, the U.S. leaders do not heed such advice, anyway. They do not reexamine their strategy, or only insofar as they step up their involvement and interference in the affairs of other countries. The events in the Philippines are a further reminder of this. To start with, I will read out two interesting paragraphs from an editorial article in THE NEW YORK TIMES. They read thus: Whatever happens next in the Philippines and Haiti, the position of the dictators has been undermined, and the scourge for them is the United States. Long live President Reagan! The first paragraph goes on in this vein. It is not excluded, the newspaper continues, that President Marcos will try to hold on by all possible means and make any return of democracy as difficult as possible. But having refrained from showering him with praise and finally criticizing his bloody methods, the administration compelled Marcos to hold the elections. In Haiti, vigorous U.S. diplomacy evidently speeded up the flight of the president-for-life. His replacement by an interim government promising to hold free elections is starting to make up for the shameful decades of indifference and nonchalance on the part of the United States. The newspaper sums this up as a radical turnabout in the policy of the administration, which today is fighting for democracy.

Well, if it is as THE NEW YORK TIMES says, then one must acknowledge that democracy, for the U.S. Administration, is everything which enables the United States to maintain its military-political presence. In particular, to judge by the Philippines, democracy helps the U.S. to keep its bases; two major U.S. bases, a naval and an Air Force base, are there.

The United States is, so to speak, affected by the Iranian syndrome, perhaps. It is afraid of being thrown out and is tossing hither and thither, avoiding taking sides. On the one hand, it is exerting pressure on Marcos: Carry out reforms, or else events will get out of control. On the other hand, contacts are being made with the opposition in an attempt to enlist its support if it wins. Well, you are aware that the elections were held in a very tense atmosphere. The international group of observers, 44 people from 19 countries, declared that there were numerous instances of deception, bribery, falsification of ballot sheets, and seizure of ballot boxes. About 100 people were killed during the election run-up, passions were running so high. As you know, both candidates, Marcos and Aquino, declared they had won. In the end, the National Assembly took it upon itself to count the votes. By law, it has 15 days to do this. Two-thirds of the parliamentary votes belong to Marcos supporters, so, I think, his victory is guaranteed.

The United States, of course, had to do a bit of fancy footwork here. To start with, they said that if the elections were not fair, they would withhold support from Marcos. Now, however, the tone is changing somewhat, and a member of the group of observers, Livingstone of the U.S. Congress, formulated his impressions thus: In most voting stations, the voting procedure differed little from elections in the United States. There were instances of bribery and corruption, however, but these were not on a wide scale.

Now Reagan has started to talk about the prospects for a 2-party system in the Philippines. He has started to call on both Marcos and Aquino to work together, to carry out reforms together in the name of national unity. This means in practice that support for Marcos will be continued.

Marcos has said that he will put out the hand of friendship to Aquino; Aquino has refused this hand of friendship. The fuss goes on in Washington, and on Thursday, Philip Habib, the veteran U.S. diplomat, flew to Manila on the President's instructions for a sort of reconnaissance. The situation in the Philippines remains unstable, the political crisis has not yet been overcome.

CROCKER CONFIRMS U.S. MILITARY AID TO UNITA

LD191224 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatiyev reports:

The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs has said that his country's goal in the region is clear-cut and is to restore and advance its influence there.

Speaking during a hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Chester Crocker added that the underlying principles and aims of U.S. policy in Africa remained immutable.

It followed from his further pronouncements that the more important of those aims for Washington is to destabilize the lawful government of Angola and add greater scope to subversive activities by the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorist splinter group led by Jonas Savimbi, a traitor to the Angolan people. The high-ranking State Department official admitted that the U.S. Administration had taken the official decision to give military aid to the UNITA gangs. He said the decision had already begun to be converted into reality but refused to provide details.

According to U.S. press reports, the United States plans to send arms and other hardware worth at least 15 million dollars to the UNITA terrorists via covert C.I.A. channels just as a starter.

Crocker made it clear that one option now being mooted was the delivery of anti-aircraft and anti-tank systems to UNITA. The United States, he said, was bent on supporting UNITA effectively and adequately.

'ESCALATING' U.S. PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN REPORTED

LD171939 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] New Delhi, February 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Karmalito reports:

The week of action for dismantling military bases and putting an end to the arms race unleashed by imperialist powers, a peace campaign which has begun in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf countries, is proceeding amid escalating U.S. military activity in the region.

The CENTRAL NEWS SERVICE (CNS) commented in this connection that Washington was stubbornly following the path of increasing its military presence in the Indian Ocean. After proclaiming a substantial part of the ocean a "zone of U.S. vital interests", the Reagan administration had embarked on a five-year "strategic development" program which would cost 30 billion dollars.

Seeking to destabilize the political and economic situation in the Indian Ocean countries, the United States resorted to various forms of military pressure, the CNS news agency said. Plying the waters in the ocean at any given time there were aircraft-carriers, from two to four missile cruisers and nine to twelve destroyers and frigates as well as nuclear-powered submarines. The United States was planning to increase the strength of its "Rapid Deployment Force" to 250,000 officers and men prepared at any moment to stage an incursion in any part of the world.

The CNS said the United States was making every effort to prevent the implementation of the U.N. declaration designating the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, which was consistently supported by the Soviet Union. The United States was also continuing to reject Soviet proposals to resume talks on limiting and subsequently reducing naval activities in the Indian Ocean, the negotiations which have been broken off by Washington. The CNS said that turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace was among the pressing tasks whose accomplishment would serve security and stability in this part of the globe.

U.S. DELETIONS IN TELEBRIDGE PROGRAM NOTED

LD192342 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] The first channel of Soviet television, having a potential audience of 240 million people showed on Wednesday a recording of the Leningrad-Seattle TV bridge. Two hundred participants on each side asked their counterparts about their life and spoke about their own.

Many times the subject of removing the threat of nuclear war was raised because the hopes of people for happiness can materialize only in conditions of peace.

In the absence of objective information about Soviet life in the United States such meetings arouse growing interest among Americans and this is proved by the fact that for the first time in 4 years of TV bridges, this one was broadcast by a commercial network in the United States. However the American version of the program deleted the answers of Soviet people about the social achievements of the Soviet Union and constitutional guarantees. Neither did it include the answers of Soviet clergymen about the freedom of religion in the USSR.

PENTAGON TRYING TO GUARANTEE FUNDS FOR PROJECTS

LD191153 Moscow TASS in English 1138 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 19 TASS -- THE WASHINGTON POST reports that a draft military budget of the United States for the 1987 financial year comprises a list of new types of armaments the development and production of which will lead to a colossal increase in military spending in the coming decade. Among the Pentagon's "novelties" are a new spaceship, for which 2,000 million dollars are requested for next financial year, a supersecret naval project, for which it is planned to allocate 115,000 million dollars in the new budget, an airship to guide missiles to distant targets, the latest-designed fighter planes, attack submarines, and strategic bombers.

The newspaper points out that the funds requested for these armaments for next financial year are only "the tip of an iceberg" as compared with the amount of money which the U.S. taxpayer will have to pay for them in the 1990s when the development of the armaments will enter a concluding stage. In an attempt to guarantee the allocation of necessary funds for the military programmes of the future, the Pentagon already now tries to make Congress endorse them "in principle". If this is done this year, the implementation of the programmes will be started "automatically", and it will be practically impossible to stop it.

U.S. TO RAISE VOA TRANSMITTERS ISSUE WITH TURKEY

LD181721 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Ankara, February 18 TASS -- The United States is going to raise the issue of installing transmitting aerials of the Voice of America radio service in Turkey at the forthcoming meeting of the U.S.-Turkish joint group on defense once again. Turkey has turned down U.S. requests for such aerials to be allowed in its territory more than once now.

Quoting well-informed sources, the newspaper CUMHURIYET said that besides the aerials issue, the U.S.-Turkish group's meeting, which opens in Ankara on February 24, will also discuss the issue of increases in the number of American planes at the Air Force base Incirlik on Turkey's Mediterranean coast.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES CANADIAN ENVOY

PM180946 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Connection With Forthcoming Presentation of Credentials"]

[Text] N.S. Ryzhov, USSR deputy foreign minister, received Vernon G. Turner, newly appointed Canadian ambassador to the USSR, in connection with the forthcoming presentation of his credentials and held a conversation with him 14 February.

PRAVDA VIEWS U.S.-ROK 'MILITARIST BLACKMAIL'

PM180953 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Boris Barakhta "Our Commentary": "Two Approaches"]

[Text] The "Team Spirit-86" American-South Korean military maneuvers are continuing in the Far East. Large-scale "combat" operations including simulated nuclear strikes are being staged on land, at sea, and in the air, in the immediate vicinity of the borders of the DPRK, the Soviet Union, and other states in the region. Faced with blatant militarist blackmail, the DPRK Government was forced to break off North-South dialogue and to place the DPRK Armed Forces in a state of heightened combat readiness.

"Regret" is now being expressed in Seoul and Washington in connection with the natural countermeasures adopted by Pyongyang. However, neither the hypocritical sighs nor the pseudopeace-loving rhetoric can conceal the obvious fact that the United States and the South Korean regime are doing everything they can to escalate the arms race in the Far East and to maintain the smoldering seat of tension there.

Despite all efforts, it is impossible to conceal the aggressive thrust of the latest show of strength described as "exercises" and accompanied in Seoul with forceful propaganda salvos against the DPRK and its constructive course in North-South relations. The current American-South Korean maneuvers are a link in a chain of efforts mounted by the White House with the aim of transforming the Asia and Pacific region into yet another arena of military-political confrontation with the socialist countries. This challenge to the Korean people and to all of peace-loving mankind is fraught with serious complications for the overall situation not just in the Korean peninsula but also in Asia and the world as a whole.

The DPRK is consistently countering the inflammatory course of the imperialist and reactionary forces with its principled peace-loving foreign policy. The range of Pyongyang's constructive initiatives is well known and quite extensive. These positive steps make provision, for instance, for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Korean peninsula; they favor the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea, the development of broad dialogue between North and South, and, ultimately, the reunification of the country on a peaceful and democratic basis.

There is no more important task today than to protect the planet's peaceful skies and to prevent a nuclear catastrophe. This is the noble aim pursued by the purposeful foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries.

OBSERVER DISCUSSES CAPABILITY OF AFGHAN ARMY

LD151805 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] In one of his letters to Radio Moscow (Mohammad Nabi) of Qandahar writes: Western radio stations often claim that the Afghan Army is unable to cope with terrorist bands. I'd like to know what Radio Moscow thinks about it. We have asked our military observer Lt Col (Nikolay Pikov), who visited the Afghan Army units on several occasions, to reply to that letter, and here is what he writes.

The paper HAQIQAT-E ENQALAB-E SAWR reported recently about the defeat by Afghan Army units of terrorist bands in the Qandahar Province and also in the Musa Qala, Kajaki, and Islam Qala regions. In the course of the military operations there over 1,000 bandits were rendered harmless, dozens of hiding places containing large amounts of weapons and ammunition were captured. One can often come across such reports in the Afghan press; they disprove inventions by the Western propaganda concerning the Afghan Armed Forces. Many mercenaries employed by American imperialism to carry out an aggression against revolutionary Afghanistan experienced that on themselves, the strength of the smashing blows delivered by the Afghan Army. Western politicians had to admit, among them American Congressman DeWine who visited the terrorist bases in Pakistan recently, that terrorists sustain heavy losses. Significantly in many cases terrorists avoid encounters with regular units of the Afghan Army.

As far as the formation of the Armed Forces of the revolutionary republic is concerned the Afghan leadership, aware of the need to ensure a reliable protection of the revolutionary gains, carries out consistent measures aimed at improving the structure of the Armed Forces. In 1980 border guard troops were formed as well as units of the people's militia. The Afghan Government pays constant attention to the need to equip the Army with modern weapons and military equipment. It sees to it that the system of training of officers, sergeants and soldiers is constantly improved. In Harbi Pohantun, the military school, and the military political department of the Institute of Social Sciences have become centers for training high-ranking military personnel.

Military and political measures carried out by the People's Democratic Party and the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan won support of the working people and all the patriots of their homeland. The formation began all over the country of units in defense of the revolution and of tribal people's armies. Territorial armies were also set up. The People's Democratic Party and the Revolutionary Council are in constant search for more flexible forms of cooperation of the Army and the population. While in Afghanistan I saw on many occasions how troops helped clear the aftermath of terrorist acts. They help restore irrigation systems, schools, hospitals, homes destroyed by terrorists, they clear the roads and mountain pass of mines. After the defeat of terrorist bands people in Afghan cities and villages can return once again to normal life in conditions of peace and tranquility favorable for work.

The attitude to junior army personnel has changed radically in today's Afghan Army. Former workers, peasants, craftsmen, and office employees who join the Army today are full-fledged citizens of their country. I could witness measures taken by the government aimed at meeting their material, cultural, health and other requirements. A large-scale literacy campaign has been launched in the Army.

The great importance should also be stressed of military cooperation with the Soviet Union, a cooperation playing a major role in the protection of the April Revolution and the strengthening of the young republic's defenses.

The combat activity of the Afghan Army has now been enhanced notably. The contribution of the Army to the work of repulsing outside aggression, ensuring security and consolidating the local government is getting more and more tangible. Addressing the 16th full-scale meeting of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the country's leader Babrak Karmal underlined that the Afghan Army fights in the front ranks against the outside and domestic forces of counterrevolution. Measures taken by the Afghan Government to promote the Armed Forces are indicative of the fact that plans of the imperialists and local reactionary elements in relation to Afghanistan are prospectless. Any attempts to talk with Afghanistan from a position of strength are doomed to failure.

DRA GOVERNMENT INFORMANT IN REBEL GROUP TALKS

LD052320 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1615 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Video report by Anatoliy Lysenko from the "World and Youth" program]

[Text] [Lysenko] You will not see the face of the person with whom we are conducting this interview. This has not been done by chance, because in literally a few hours after the interview, he will once again go off to the location of formation bands. The information he brings from dushman camps is incredibly useful. It helps to cut off the bands' movements. It helps to destroy their ambushes. It helps to destroy the enemies of the revolution.

Why are you helping Khad in its work? Why have you gone to the side of people's power?

[Unidentified speaker in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation] When the revolution took place, I did not accept it. I went abroad; only later did I understand that it is for the happiness of the people, for all who were without a voice and without rights. I saw foreign instructors in refugee camps, who were teaching only one thing: to kill, to kill, to kill. I saw people who declared themselves defenders of the homeland and Islam, but who were sent to burn down schools and mosques, to kill women and old men, just because the latter took land given back to them by the revolution. They have sold out the homeland and therefore I am at war with them. I do not shoot. I try to wreck their plans and to prevent harm to the homeland, Afghanistan.

[Lysenko] Sitting before me was a person who quite recently had turned 25. One can imagine how much it costs him in strength and nerve every time he comes here. A time will come and it will be possible to recount his amazing life story and to show his face.

Khost. This town is situated not far from the Pakistani border. Unusually green for Afghan towns, it was famed for its woodland and fruit orchards. Gazing at the unhurried life of the main street, it is difficult even to imagine that the town is under constant fire. Dushmans, having released rockets [rakety] over the town, go back here and then to the territory of Pakistan. For what are these peasants, who have been blasted by a rocket with U.S. brand name, to blame? For the fact that they have accepted the revolution, and not joined the bands.

In April the dushmans undertook the most bitter attacks on Khost. The aim was clear: to seize the town and to declare the creation of a self-styled government. Foreign radio broadcasts simultaneously reported that the town had been seized by the dushmans. But it didn't come off, and the remnants of routed bands ran off abroad, and now they are firing blind.

The scout you saw at the beginning of the report reported that a dushman sabotage group would go into the town under the guise of a tribal patrol. One would even be dressed in military uniform. They appeared toward evening; they were going along confidently but watchfully. They were counting on the fact that hardly anyone would pay attention to a patrol. It did not come off. Border guardsmen organized an ambush and the attack was totally unexpected; so unexpected that the enemy was not even able to use weapons. They quickly put their hands up.

AFGHAN REBELS POSING AS REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN

LD181137 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] New Delhi, February 18 TASS -- The presence in Pakistan of Afghan counter-revolutionaries who call themselves "Afghan refugees," jeopardises the security of Pakistan and creates serious problems for its population, Abdul Khalik Khan, general secretary of the National Democratic Party, said in Islamabad. Provocative sallies by Afghan counter-revolutionaries, the terror they practise against the population of whole regions threatens to seriously complicate the situation in Pakistan where people demand that the bases of Afghan counter-revolutionaries should be closed and the "dushmans" expelled from Pakistan.

In this connection the Indian press says that a large group of deputies of the National Assembly of Pakistan have protested against Islamabad's attitude to the "dushmans". The leadership of the movement for the restoration of democracy has issued a special protest resolution against Islamabad conniving at the actions of Afghan bandits.

REPORTAGE ON PHILIPPINE SITUATION AFTER ELECTIONS

LD191733 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, February 19 TASS -- President Marcos of the Philippines conducted a conference with members of the cabinet and the leadership of the ruling movement for a new society coalition to study the crisis situation in the country after the February 7 pre-term presidential elections. An action programme of the coalition to neutralise the "civil disobedience" campaign started by the opposition was worked out. The President stressed that he will display maximum restrain although he is ready to resort to the force of law should the opposition's actions "create a threat to the constitutional mainstays of society."

Corazon Aquino, the leader of the opposition, said in an interview with the American NBC television company that the election returns announced by the country's National Assembly were unlawful and that there were numerous instances of fraud. She said she would not accept any compromise and would continue the "civil disobedience" campaign.

Washington, February 19 TASS -- Talks between Philip Habib, the visiting special representative of President Ronald Reagan, and the leaders of the opposing groupings are taking place against the background of mounting anti-American sentiments and mass demonstrations in front of the building of the United States Embassy in Manila.

Referring to the White House the American press keeps repeating the thesis that regardless of the development of the political situation in the Philippines the main thing for Washington is to retain its "key positions," having in mind first of all the Clark Field and Subic Bay military bases which are important in terms of Washington's strategic military interests in the Pacific.

Meantime Washington is building up pressure on the Philippines according to a prepared script. Senator Jim Sasser, a Democrat, submitted to the United States Congress a bill proposing to suspend military-economic assistance to that country.

Tokyo, February 19 TASS -- The Pentagon has started preparing for a direct armed interference in the Philippines. As reported by the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN, some two thousand Marines from the "Rapid Deployment Force" have been brought additionally to that country from Okinawa. At the same time 300 "Green Beret" instructors have been sent to the Philippines with the task of hastily training the 16,000 American troops there in the tactics of suppressing mass demonstrations and conducting punitive operations atainst the civilian population.

As reported by ASAHI EVENING NEWS, ships of the United States 7th Fleet have suddenly called off their planned exercises near the Japanese island of Iwo Jima and have orders to be in a state of increased readiness for a possible raid on Manila.

'ANNEXATIONIST' U.S. MOVES ON MICRONESIA ASSAILED

PM191612 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[V. Voytenko "Military-Political Commentary": "Being Taken in Hand"]

[Text] A "referendum" is due to be held the day after tomorrow, 21 February, in the central Pacific islands of Palau on the agreement on "free association" between that part of Micronesia and the United States which is being imposed by Washington.

In this way, circumventing the UN Charter and contrary to the world public's demands, the United States will complete the annexation of the Pacific islands which have been under U.S. "trusteeship" for almost 4 decades.

It was neocolonialist and militarist aspirations which determined Washington's policy toward Micronesia from the very first days of its administration of this UN trust territory. The United States saw the gigantic arc of more than 2,200 islands as a major military bridgehead in the Asian and Pacific region. The territory of Micronesia became an agglomeration of military dumps, test sites, and bases. It was there, in the region of Bikini and Eniwetak Atolls, that the Pentagon conducted nuclear tests in the forties and fifties. It was there, at Kwajalein Atoll, that a test site for MX ICBM's was established. It was also there that systems designed to be used within the "star wars" program were installed.

U.S. administration of the Micronesian territory expired in 1980-1981. Intending to perpetuate its domination -- not only to maintain, but also to expand the naval bases, air fields, and other military installations created in the islands, and also to deploy nuclear, chemical, and other mass destruction weapons there -- the United States engineered and enacted a farce by granting the mandated Pacific archipelagoes "commonwealth" or "free association" status. Essentially, this meant Micronesia's incorporation into the United States. In order to block joint demonstrations by the indigenous population against the incipient annexation, Micronesia was arbitrarily split into four parts which were later incorporated into the United States. It was no accident that the press used the adjective "creeping" to describe this process.

The new status, creating only a semblance of self-government, has in practice doomed the Caroline Islands, the Marshall Islands, the North Mariana Islands, and the Palau Islands to be U.S. colonies. The U.S. Administration has usurped the exclusive right of control on foreign policy, defense, and finance matters.

As it happens, the Pentagon's selfish militarist interests were camouflaged beneath euphonious phrases about "mutual security." Nevertheless, no one is likely to be misled by these splendid words. It is noteworthy that the agreements are drawn up in such a way as to remain in force virtually indefinitely, for as long as it may suit Washington.

Such annexationist actions against Micronesia cannot fail to generate sharp protests from the broad world public. The recent TASS statement noted that "the United States' neocolonialist actions and its arbitrariness toward the small Pacific Islands people deserve an appropriate rebuff."

BRITISH ADMIRAL PRESSURES NEW ZEALAND ON PORT CALLS

LD200747 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 19 TASS -- Admiral John Fieldhouse, Britain's chief of defence staff, currently on a visit to New Zealand, has made an attempt to exert pressure on that country's government by declaring that cooperation between Britain and New Zealand might be jeopardised should the New Zealand Parliament endorse legislation on a nuclear-free zone, disarmament and arms control.

According to FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY, Adm. Fieldhouse stressed at a press conference in Wellington today that the ban on the entry of British warships to New Zealand ports is "going to make a very considerable difference to our normal relations."

New Zealand's parliamentary group, the Coalition Against Nuclear Warships, believes that the aim of the British naval chief's visit to New Zealand is to obtain its government's permission for British warships to enter the country's ports without declaring whether they carry nuclear weapons.

SOVIET, SRV CADRE TRAINING PACT SIGNED

OW190821 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] An intergovernmental treaty on Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in providing training and enhancing professional skills for Vietnamese leading cadres and specialists in economic management for the 1986-90 period was signed in Moscow on 17 February. During the past 5-year plan, 1,356 Vietnamese specialists, among them 113 Vietnamese leading ministers and high-ranking leading cadres, received further professional training at Soviet colleges. Nearly 200 Soviet teachers were dispatched to Vietnam to give lectures and on exchange visits. Nearly 7,000 high- and mid-level Vietnamese specialists were trained or received further occupational training in Vietnam. The treaty was signed by Yagodin, Soviet minister of higher and secondary specialized education, and Nguyen Van Tran, director of the Central Economic Management School under the Vietnamese Council of Ministers.

BURMESE LEADERS GREETED ON INDEPENDENCE JUBILEE

PM181038 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent U San Yu, president of Burma, a telegram conveying cordial congratulations and good wishes to him, the State Council, and the friendly Burmese people on the 38th anniversary of the country's independence. In the reply telegram the president, on behalf of the Burmese people and State Council, expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations and for his part conveyed best wishes for progress and prosperity to the Soviet people. The USSR Council of Ministers has sent U Maung Maung Kha, Burmese prime minister, a telegram of congratulations and best wishes to the Burmese premier and Government on the 38th anniversary of the country's independence. In his reply telegram U Maung Maung Kha on behalf of the government and on his own behalf thanked the USSR Council of Ministers for the congratulations.

PRK LEADERS SEND MESSAGE OF THANKS FOR GREETINGS

PM191205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers. On behalf of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee, the State Council and Council of Ministers of the PRK, and all the Cambodian people and on our own account, we express deep gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers for the warm, cordial congratulations on our national day -- 7 January. We express firm confidence that the relations of fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the PRK and the USSR will continue to widen and strengthen for the benefit of our countries' peoples and for the sake of the strengthening of the socialist community, universal peace, and international security. We wish the Soviet Union's working people great successes in greeting the 27th CPSU Congress, successes in the cause of further improving the developed socialist society and building communism in the USSR.

Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK State Council;

Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers.

POLAND'S MESSNER CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT

Officials at Welcoming

PM201010 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Friendly Visit"]

[Excerpt] Zbigniew Messner, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, arrived in Moscow 18 February on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. He was met off the plane at the airport by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The welcoming party also included A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; M.S. Smirtyukov, USSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs; B.I. Aristov, B.V. Balmont, T.B. Guzhenko, A.S. Systsov, and V.G. Chirskov, USSR ministers; A.N. Aksenov and K.F. Katushev, chairmen of USSR state committees; S.A. Losev, TASS director general; O.B. Rakhmanin, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee deparment; V.P. Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.T. Saykin, chairman of Moscow Gorispolkom; V.I. Brovikov, USSR ambassador to Poland, and other officials.

W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, and representatives of Moscow's working people were at the airport.

Talks With Ryzhkov

LD191439 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, conducted talks in the Kremlin today with Zbigniew Messner, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic. The heads of government exchanged information on the social and economic development of the Soviet Union and Poland on preparations for the 27th Congress of the CPSU and the 10th Congress of the PUWP. Mutual satisfaction was expressed with the ongoing development of Soviet-Polish relations in various fields and the fundamental importance of the accords reached at the meetings between Mikhail Gorbachev and Wojciech Jaruzelski for their expansion and perfection was stressed.

Both sides devoted much attention to questions of Soviet-Polish cooperation in the new five-year plan period. Practical measures taken by the Soviet Union and Poland to fulfill commitments stemming for them from the comprehensive programme of the scientific and technological progress of CMEA countries to the year 2000, adopted at the 41st (extraordinary) sitting of the CMEA session were discussed.

The participants in the talks exchanged views on pressing international problems. They emphasized the fundamental importance of strengthening the unity and cohesion of socialist countries, of their joint actions in the struggle to prevent a nuclear catastrophe, to stop the arms race, to strengthen peace and international security. Zbigniew Messner stated that Poland thought highly of the new large-scale Soviet peace initiatives contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of January 15, 1986.

Agreements Signed

LD191915 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Report by Moscow correspondent Leslaw Nowak]

[Excerpts] Talks were held in the Catherine Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace between Premiers Zbigniew Messner and Nikolay Ryzhkov. Zbigniew Messner invited Nikolay Ryzhkov to pay an official visit of friendship to Poland. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

The talks resulted in the signing of agreements between the governments of Poland and of the Soviet Union. Premiers Zbigniew Messner and Nikolay Ryzhkov signed a document concerning cooperation in creating new production capacity; the completion of the construction and also the reconstruction and modernization of a dozen or so enterprises in Poland. The heads of government also signed nuclear power-station in Poland, as well as an agreement on the first [words indistinct]. Documents concerning the coordination of economic plans, and trade turnover and payments between our states up to the year 1990 were signed. A number of other agreements, contracts, and documents were also sigend.

Meets With Gorbachev

LD191743 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting today with Zbigniew Messner, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, who is in the USSR on an official friendly visit.

Zbigniew Messner conveyed to Mikhail Gorbachev warm wishes of success in his work from the first secretary of the Central Committee of the PUWP, chairman of Poland's State Council Wojciech Jaruzelski. On his part Mikhail Gorbachev wished Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leadership further advance along the road of strengthening socialism in Poland. He noted also the CPSU's striving to deepen and expand all-round ties with the PUWP that serve the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Polish peoples.

It was noted during the conversation that Soviet-Polish cooperation is constantly expanding and being enriched with new forms. The importance was stressed of conducting with still greater vigour the work to implement the comprehensive programme of the scientific and technological progress of CMEA member countries because this accords with the vital interests of the Soviet and Polish peoples and will enhance the acceleration of the economic development of both countries and the socialist community as a whole.

When international problems were discussed the Polish side voiced full support for the programme of liquidating nuclear arms on earth before the end of the century, outlined in the January 15 statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The sides stressed the mutual resolve to build up efforts in close interaction with other socialist countries, with all peace forces to avert the nuclear threat, to strengthen peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole. The conversation passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding on all questions under discussion. It confirmed the undeviating striving to strengthen all-round cooperation and fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Polish peoples.

Dinner Given for Messner

LD192343 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A dinner was given on behalf of the Soviet Government in the Grand Kremlin Palace today in honor of Zbigniew Messner. Together with Comrade Messner were officials accompanying him on his trip.

On the Soviet side were Comrades Ryzhkov, Aliyev, Ligachev, Talyzin and other officials. Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Zbigniew Messner exchanged speeches at the dinner. The text of the speeches will be published in the press.

Ryzhkov Dinner Remarks

LD191821 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS -- "Poland's and the Soviet Union's cooperation in the international arena will further confidently serve the cause of peace, the strengthening of trust between states and the extensive development of equal and mutually advantageous cooperation between them." This was stated today by the head of the Soviet Government Nikolay Ryzhkov who was speaking in the Kremlin at a dinner for Zbigniew Messner, the head of government of the Polish People's Republic, "We believe in our cooperation," Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed, "and this belief is backed up by historical experience and the community of ever lasting political values."

He pointed out in his speech that as Soviet-Polish cooperation in the new five-year plan period was considered, special attention was paid to "new forms of economic ties, which can increase their effectiveness."

In the present-day complicated international situation, the head of the Soviet Government said, accelerating the social and economic development of the countries of the socialist community and consolidating their unity and cohesion are of tremendous significance.

"On a worldwide scale," he said, "the unity of the socialist countries serve a great goal which rallies together and inspires to vigorous action ever broader masses of people in all continents. This goal is to prevent a nuclear catastrophe in the name of preserving life on earth. And if today there are emerging real prerequisites for reducing the war threat and reviving detente, we can say with great satisfaction that this is due to the persistent efforts of the fraternal socialist countries and due to their cohesion and will for peace."

Nikolay Ryzhkov said that in keeping with the socialist community's common strategic course of bringing about a decisive turn from confrontation to cooperation, the Soviet Union has put forward a radical and at the same time realistic program. "This program set forth in the January 15 statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has opened a reliable way to delivering mankind from the threat of annihilation."

Messner Dinner Speech

LD192125 Warsaw PAP in English 2028 GMT 19 Feb 86

["Premier Messner's Speech; (abridged)" -- PAP headline]

[Text] Moscow, Feb. 19: Polish society is following with attention the preparations to the 27th CPSU Congress which will begin in a few days and which is a momentous event in the life of the Soviet Union, the socialist community and the whole international communist and workers' movement.

Polish Communists share the ideals and thoughts contained in the draft of the new formulation of the CPSU Programme. This is an undertaking of great scale, reaching into the 21st century and of exceptional significance for the whole socialist system.

The 10th PUWP Congress will be a great event in the life of the Polish nation. It will adopt, for the first time, a programme of our party reaching far into the future. It will map out the directions and tasks of the socialist development of People's Poland.

The common feature of the draft programmes of both our fraternal parties is putting social goals, the good of working people in the forefont. They define the sense of socialist transformations.

In achieving significant progress in the development and modernization of the economy, accelerating scientific-technical progress and broadening Polish participation in the international division of labour, we see the path leading to this goal.

In these plans we are at one with the directions of development of the whole socialist community. We have given expression to this here in Moscow a few weeks ago by adopting the documents opening a qualitatively new stage of cooperation with in the framework of the CMEA.

The realization of these undertakings in our country, especially in the period of the coming five years, is a complex task of a much greater scale of difficulty than in other states.

The correctness of the path we have chosen is, however, undisputable. The progressing normalization of the political and socio-economic life, the growing prestige of the party and state bodies, the strengthening of the position of socialism in our country (?confirm) this. We will keep to this road with all resolve.

Broadening comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union has fundamental meaning for the further socio-economic development of Poland. Polish-Soviet economic relations bring ever increasing benefits to both countries. We have created solid foundations of their further development in recent years in the form of a long-term programme of economic and scientific-technical cooperation till the year 2000. We jointly assess that in many fields there still exist big reserves and possibilities. We think that also our today's talks and the agreements signed will contribute to their better utilization.

Friendship and alliance with the Soviet Union are a guarantee of Poland's security and the inviolability of our borders. The undisputable alliance between Poland and the USSR also lies in the interest of the Soviet Union in ensuring security of the Soviet Union and its development.

The Leninist policy of peace of the Soviet Union meets with the full support of the Polish nation. We fully solidarize with Soviet disarmament initiatives and especially the long-term programme of freeing humanity from the threat of nuclear annihilation which was presented by CPSU CC General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. We cannot be indifferent to facts showing that the U.S. and its allies from NATO still strive to achieve military superiority over the socialist states community and continue the policy of confrontation. This creates good conditions for the activities of forces, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany, wishing to turn back the wheel of history and question the existing territorial and political reality in Europe. We will, therefore, consistently act with a view to strengthen our defensive alliance, the Warsaw Treaty. This is an unfailing shield for providing security for fraternal socialist states and peace in Europe and the world.

LIBYAN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN POLAND

LD200955 Moscow TASS in English 0751 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Warsaw, February 20 TASS -- Gratitude to the countries of the socialist community for their solidarity with the Libyan people's struggle against imperialism has been expressed by Muhammad 'Ubayd al-Shurki, secretary of the General People's Council (GCP) of Libya for housing and public utilities, the Polish news agency PAP reports. It is pointed out in the report that the Libyan guest who stayed in Warsaw on a special mission held talks with Manfred Gorywoda, deputy chairman of Poland's Council of Ministers, and with General Michal Janiszewski, minister-senior executive officer of Poland's Council of Ministers.

During the talks Muhammad 'Ubayd al-Shukri conveyed greetings to Wojciech Jaruzelski on behalf of the leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ] and personally from Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Having pointed out that the remaining threat in the Mediterranean to Libya's security on the part of the United States, the GCP secretary emphasised that the Libyan people was fully resolved to defend the gains of the September 1 revolution.

The Polish side reaffirmed support for the SPLAJ which pursues a policy aimed at protecting its sovereignty and peaceful development from interference on the part of imperialist forces.

The participants in the talks discussed key problems of Polish-Libyan relations in the light of the decisions taken during Wojciech Jaruzelski's visit to Libya in December 1985. They coordinated a schedule of meetings of the two countries' groups of specialists, during which the delivery of Polish goods as well as participation of Polish enterprises in the implementation of capital construction projects and in the rendering of technical services in Libya will be discussed. The sides recognized it necessary to work out appropriate financial and banking levers to stimulate the development of economic cooperation between the two countries. With this end in view, the presidents of the central banks of Poland and Libya are to meet soon, the PAP report points out.

USSR-GDR SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD171952 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] The 35th session of the standing USSR-GDR subcommission for scientific and technical cooperation has ended with a protocol being signed in Berlin. Over to Vyacheslav Kashchenko, our correspondent in the GDR:

One can hardly find a field of science or technology in the GDR which would not reflect close cooperation with the USSR. It is being regulated by about 200 governmental and interdepartmental agreements; 350 GDR combines and scientific organizations and 450 USSR enterprises and scientific establishments participate in its realization. The results of cooperation can be seen practically everywhere. Thus, for instance, about half of the entire electric power output is being produced at present in the GDR with equipment developed by USSR specialists and built in our country. The GDR was the first fraternal CEMA country to start developing atomic power engineering with the help of the USSR. As many specialists note, the republic imports not only machine-building equipment from the USSR, but the technical progress too. In its turn, equipment developed by the GDR specialists is used to equip major works which are under construction in the chemical, motor-tractor, metallurgic, light, and other industries in our country.

Cooperation between both countries in the sphere of science and technology is characterized by well-founded prospects and covers the period up to the end of present century. It envisages active interaction in the sphere of microelectronics, robot-technology, mastering the nuclear energy, microbiology, and other trends in science and technology which are exploited for the maximum possible intensification of production. GDR scientists and technologists are taking part in reconstructing USSR enterprises producing consumer goods. It envisages a rationalization of production of various specific articles and an intensification of technological processes. Participation by GDR specialists in realizing our country's food program is an exceptionally significant field of cooperation. As the German friends note, the integrated CEMA program adopted late last year in Moscow is exceptionally significant for determining new prospects and raising the level of the practical return from scientific and technical cooperation in both countries.

HUNGARIAN WORKERS DEPART FOR KAZAKH OILFIELDS

LD182232 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0020 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Budapest, January 18 [date as received] (TANJUG) -- The first group of Hungarian workers recently left for Kazakhstan, where they will work in oil fields under an agreement signed between Hungary and the Soviet Union.

From four to five thousand Hungarian workers will be working in oil fields in Kazakhstan in the coming years, in return for which the Soviet side will deliver natural gas to Hungary via a new gas pipeline.

In addition to the current 4 billion cubic meters of natural gas, Hungary will as of 1990 be receiving from the Soviet Union an additional 2 to 2.5 billion cubic meters, which will cover around 70 percent of the domestic demand in natural gas.

Hungary will also participate in the further construction of the gas pipeline with deliveries of equipment and spare parts, which will bring its total investments close to one billion rubles.

UK FIRMS GET GUIDANCE FOR SDI PARTICIPATION

LD191701 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] London, February 18 TASS -- Britain and the United States have concluded amid strict secrecy a series of new agreements to flesh out their "memorandum of understanding" signed last December, which sets guidelines for British involvement in the U.S. "star wars" program.

The agreements were signed for the U.S. side by Lt-General James Abrahamson, director of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" organization who has arrived in London. He also spoke before a large group of officials from British firms and research organizations interested in SDI-related orders.

Reporting this, the newspaper GUARDIAN said that the agreements testified to London's political endorsement of the "star wars" project and that, in practical terms, they spelled out the terms under which British firms could compete for SDI deals. The paper said that the U.S. Defense Department was already planning to vet and classify the work of every British company and researcher commissioned to develop technology which could be used in "star wars". The Pentagon's implementation of those plans would mean that Britain would have to pay the price of its sovereignty for the conservative government's support to the U.S. course. In Whitehall they were concerned that it would spark off a new political row about the application of U.S. law outside America.

Summing up the sentiments in British political and public circles, THE GUARDIAN said in an editorial article that Britain had entered itself on the list of SDI supporters without having made a serious analysis of all aspects and the possible ramifications of that program. Its realization, it said, would destabilize the situation in the world since the Soviet Union would be compelled to adopt corresponding reply measures.

DUTCH LABOR PARTY VOTES AGAINST CRUISE MISSILES

PM191116 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu. Kharlanov dispatch: "Against the Arms Race; Extraordinary Congress of Netherlands Labor Party"]

[Text] Amsterdam, 17 Feb -- An extraordinary congress of the Labor Party -- the country's main opposition party -- has been at work for 3 days in the Netherlands capital. The agenda included the question of the Netherlands socialists' program and tactics in the campaign for the May parliamentary elections.

During the discussion the question was posed whether the Labor Party should relax its categorically negative attitude to the stationing of U.S. cruise missiles on Netherlands soil with a view to the socialists' possible participation in a coalition government after the elections. However, most of the speakers resolutely opposed this. The delegates recalled that recent polls have shown that 84 percent of those who vote socialist insist that the Labor Party continue to take a hard line on this problem. During a special vote, a decision to demand that the Netherlands refuse to accept cruise missiles was adopted.

The election program adopted at the congress says that the Labor Party opposes the arms race, primarily the nuclear missile arms race. Netherlands socialists advocate declaring the European continent a nuclear-free zone.

Delivering the closing speech at the congress, Labor Party leader J. den Uyl said that the USSR's recent proposals on nuclear disarmament issues are vitally important for all countries and primarily for the European states. What arguments, he exclaimed, do those who cling to the decision to accept U.S. cruise missiles on Netherlands soil have left?

In conversation with this PRAVDA correspondent K. de Vries, a Labor Party deputy to the Netherlands Parliament, welcomed the USSR's proposals on the total elimination of all medium-range nuclear missiles in the European zone. It is a realistic and feasible proposal, he said, which must be implemented immediately. All the European peoples, who realize that weapons of this kind are a destabilizing factor that do not increase but, on the contrary, reduce the level of security of those countries where they are located, have an interest in it.

FRENCH-WEST GERMAN MILITARY LINKS EXPANDING

PM190807 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[V. Gusenkov article under the rubric "Events and Opinions": "A Contradictory Alliance"]

[Text] The beginning of the year has been marked by a noticeable acceleration of military-political cooperation between Paris and Bonn. Foreign Minister H. -D. Genscher and other officials of the ruling coalition are vying with one another to make 1986 a year of "French-West German accord in the interests of European defense." The French side is also showing a readiness to discuss questions of "European defense" and to go from words to deeds in this sphere.

A range of military-political problems turned out to be the center of talks between President F. Mitterrand and Chancellor H. Kohl in Baden-Baden. After the meeting, major maneuvers by French and Bundeswehr forces for 1987 were announced with great pomp. Taking part in them will be 150,000 officers and men, including units of the interventionist French "Rapid Action Force." These maneuvers, according to French Defense Minister P. Quiles, will be the most important event for the two armies since the end of World War II.

Joint arms production is growing. The French corporations Dassault-Breguet and Aerospatiale, together with the West German corporations Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blom and Dornier, are producing antitank missiles and air defense systems.

The center of gravity, however, is being increasingly shifted to coordinating military policy and converging military doctrine. At the end of last year, the French president and FRG chancellor agreed to "unfreeze" the articles of the 1963 Elysee Treaty that concern defense and security problems. This subject matter had been "prohibited" for almost a quarter of a century. Now, within the framework of a bilateral commission, problems of "strategic coordination" are being actively discussed by politicians and military men.

What is behind this deliberately vague formulation? It is known that Bonn long ago sought pledges from Paris concerning the possible use of French nuclear weapons on West German territory. These are the Pluton tactical missile and the Hades missile, which is under construction, as well as the Mirage and Jaguar aircraft, with which France has equipped its Air Force. According to press reports, the French Government has agreed to hold consultations on these questions with the FRG. It is true that Paris immediately declared that agreement to hold consultations by no means meant agreement to FRG participation in adopting a decision on the use of nuclear weapons.

The right to use it, they said, remains as before the exclusive prerogative of France's supreme political and military leadership. A question arises in this connection: Will not French-West German consultations be a prelude to the admission that "France's vital interests" also extend to FRG territory? After all, there is only one step between this admission and the pledge to expand the French "nuclear umbrella" to the other side of the Rhine.

Both sides consider the time is particularly right to demonstrate "privileged" relations in the military sphere. There are also domestic political reasons for this. Parliamentary elections will soon be held in France. They are also on the horizon in the FRG. As foreign policy will play a significant role in pre-election skirmishes, both governments are interested in the French-West German team appearing harmonious. The main thing, it seems, is that a number of problems have accumulated in relations between Paris and Bonn in recent months. L'HUMANITE, mouthpiece of the French Communist Party, has noted that official speeches are less than ever a gauge of relations between the two countries.

What is the basis for such an opinion? The question of financing the French "Eureka" project remains a stumbling block between Bonn and Paris. It is presented in Paris as Western Europe's answer to the technological challenge from the United States and Japan. From the very beginning the initiators of "Eureka" have proceeded from the fact that the financial contribution of France and the FRG to its realization must be a determining factor. France has announced the apportionment of FR1 billion.

The FRG did not, however, show enthusiasm for the project at a conference on "Eureka" held in Hannover. It was announced that Bonn was prepared to allot only DM180 million for its realization, which produced a painful reaction in French official circles. Summarizing the Federal Republic's position on this, the American CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR gloatingly noted that it is easier for the conservative H. Kohl to find a common language with M. Thatcher and R. Reagan than with F. Mitterrand.

The question of "Eureka's" connection with the development of the latest weapons systems also remains open. Officials in Paris like to stress that "Eureka" has nothing in common with the U.S. SDI. This, they say, is a purely a civilian project. However, reports have appeared recently about the development of space weapons systems, including powerful lasers, in France and the FRG. French and West German experts consider such directions of "Eureka" as the development of ultrafast computers and optical electronics as having a direct bearing on the military sphere.

The most tangible differences between France and the FRG remain their approach to U.S. "star wars" plans. On the whole, France is against the deployment of offensive weapons in space. President F. Mitterrand and other state figures have voiced disagreement with the "Strategic Defense Initiative." It is true, though, that in practice the Socialist government does not stand in the way of French firms searching for contracts within the SDI framework. The government has a positive attitude toward the participation of French companies in contracts connected with SDI, Defense Minister P. Quiles has stated. He recalled that from the "political and international viewpoint," France did not support the SDI, expressing the view that it is necessary to differentiate between the SDI and ongoing research. Such logic seems strange. Leaders of the major corporations Matra and Aerospatiale have declared their intention to take part in the SDI.

Bonn actively supports the SDI. The ruling coalition rushed to begin talks with the Americans about the conditions of the FRG's participation in "star wars."

This decision, although not a surprise for the French Government, was interpreted in Paris as confirmation of the FRG's alignment with Washington. In this connection Paris recalled that the Bonn Government struck a blow at France's proposal to create the Hermes space shuttle within the framework of the European Space Agency. The FRG approved this proposal in principle in 1984. But at the beginning of last year, pleading that the Hermes project was too expensive, the Federal Republic retracted its previous decision. Such treachery by its "privileged" ally irritated French Government circles. They reached the conclusion that in space matters, the FRG trusts the United States more than the plans of "space independent Europe."

All this indicates that France and the FRG have different views of Western Europe's place in the current interdependent world. Paris, which by no means questions the leading role of the United States in the Western camp, regards Western Europe as one of the "centers of power," -- by depending on its own economic potential and political influence -- to be able to more boldly defend its specific interests in the face of its mighty transoceanic ally. Bonn does not share this philosophy. It increasingly counts on Western Europe's direct entry into the global strategy of the United States. Does not the so-called "European defense initiative," which is being nurtured by FRG ruling circles, testify to this? It envisages the creation of an antimissile defense system in Western Europe -- a kind of adjunct to the SDI.

A more widespread "argument" of the adherents of a "European defense" in France -- there are many of them in the government and the opposition -- is reduced to this assertion: Arresting the FRG's slide toward Washington can only be done by strengthening the French-West German military alliance. The thinking is that a convergence with the FRG in military-political questions would prompt it to support France's policies in Western Europe. This is, of course, a delusion. The Paris newspaper LE MONDE expresses itself quite definitely: The Bonn coalition will not make any decision that could create the impression that it is dissociating the FRG from the United States. The Rhine clearly does not intend to sacrifice its close ties with the United States for the sake of stratetic cooperation with France.

Farsighted politicians in France are increasingly asking themselves the question: Will not the current attempts to draw the FRG into the orbit of military-political cooperation end up hurting French interests? Having enormous economic potential, the FRG is also becoming a leading military force in Western Europe. In the 1985 "white paper," FRG Defense Minister M. Woerner stated that the Bundeswehr is one of the best armies in the West. It is armed with all types of modern combat equipment, except nuclear weapons. With the deployment of Pershings and cruise missiles on its territory, the FRG has turned into a region unequalled in its saturation with conventional and nuclear missile weapons.

Bonn's participation in the "star wars" program opens the way to obtaining even more developed military technology. The French newspaper LIBERATION, which is close to the government, draws attention to precisely this aspect: Will not Bonn, in circumvention of existing prohibitions, get access to nuclear weapons? A reasonable question.

USSR DIPLOMAT REPORTED MISSING IN GREECE

NC171836 Paris AFP in English 1829 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Spelling of Russian names as received]

[Text] Athens, Feb 17 (AFP) -- Victor Gudarev, 50, representative of the Soviet Merchant Marine Ministry here, has been missing since Friday after leaving home with his seven-year-old son, Maxim, and the boy's woman teacher, official sources said today. Mr. Gudarev worked at the Soviet Embassy while the woman, identified as Galina Gromova, 40, taught at the Soviet Mission school.

The Greek press has speculated that Mr. Gudarev and Mrs. Gromova worked for GRU, the Soviet military intelligence organisation.

Greek Government Spokesman Miltiadhis Papaioannou said he had no information on the disappearances and could not confirm rumors that the three had gone to the United States with the aid of the U.S. Embassy.

The occupants of two cars belonging to the Soviet Mission stopped outside the U.S. Embassy Satunday night may have been looking for Mr. Gudarev, according to police, who had been alerted by suspicious U.S. officials.

The occupants -- a TASS correspondent, an embassy secretary and two drivers -- said they were looking for a restaurant for dinner, police said.

U.S. PRESSING SWEDEN TO CURB TRADE WITH USSR

PM181220 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Seychev "International Commentary": "The Washington Auditors"]

[Text] Stockholm -- The United States is persevering in its attempts to involve Sweden in the trade war it is waging against the socialist countries.

A few days ago B. Ohlson, export enforcement attache at the U.S. Embassy, submitted to the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce the latest list of demands being made of Swedish entrepreneurs.

Let us say at once that the document is couched in strictly imperative terms.

Swedish companies acquiring electronic equipment or components for machines produced in Sweden from the United States are directed (!) to introduce no later than 23 April a comprehensive control system at their enterprises and to warn the entire leadership apparatus that it "will be held responsible" for any breaches of Washington's directives. Swedish firms are forbidden to maintain business relations with "blacklisted" companies or persons.

Washington is also giving the force of law to the already existing practice of audits, which will now mean not only the inspection of the entire records of firms but also "interviews" with or, obviously and more accurately, interrogation of personnel.

During the past few years the United States has displayed greater activeness in its aspiration to complicate trade ties between nonaligned and neutral countries, including Sweden, and the socialist states. As a result, Swedish firms have found themselves facing a "barricade" of rules invented on the other side of the ocean, rules which B. Ohlson is presenting again to the Swedes in the garish packaging of "protecting the interests of Swedish firms and U.S. exporters."

According to DAGENS NYHETER, the leaders of 300 Swedish firms are obliged to immediately submit all business documents to the Washington auditors. Technical experts from the U.S. Embassy will visit Swedish enterprises once a week to expose "violations." "Moreover, this applies not only to investigations of trade involving U.S. technology, but also to purely Swedish products, and can be described as industrial espionage," the newspaper wrote.

The U.S. Embassy in Sweden is collaborating with the Export Enforcement Section of the Department of Commerce in Washington and directly with Theodore Wu, chief of that section and former U.S. prosecuting attorney. He pulls strings stretching to 68 U.S. embassies in different countries and actively collaborates with the FBI, the U.S. Customs, and the National Security Agency.

These unceremonious actions, the newspaper NORRSKENSFLAMMAN writes in this connection, are crude interference in Sweden's internal affairs and an attempt to control its trade policy. Resorting to the inconsistent pretext of protecting national security interests, the White House is in actual fact pursuing selfish interests and is trying to consolidate the positions of its corporations and financial groupings.

By usurping the right to control the Swedish economy, the U.S. Administration is encroaching upon the country's sovereignty and its policy of neutrality.

SWEDISH PEACE COMMITTEE BACKS USSR ARMS PROPOSALS

LD172107 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Stockholm, February 17 TASS -- The Soviet plan to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000, expounded in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has met with an extremely positive response on the part of world public opinion and the leadership of state and government of many countries, the board of the Swedish National Peace Committee said in a statement.

It described the Soviet Union's extension of its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear blasts also as a highly important practical step. Putting an end to nuclear testing is now a key issue, the statement explained.

The need to achieve this goal, it noted, has been stressed also by the final report of the international independent commission on disarmament and security, which is led by Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, and the New Delhi declaration of the leaders of six countries and many members of U.S. Congress have also gone on record to back this aim.

Besides, an end to nuclear weapons tests would pose an obstacle to U.S. plans for preparing for "star wars". the board of the Swedish National Peace Committee said. This is why the anti-war movement, it added, should help shape a public opinion that will demand an immediate and complete termination of all nuclear tests.

SYRIA REPORTEDLY RECEIVES 250 SOVIET T-80 TANKS

GF191248 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 19 Feb 86 p 22

[From "the Military Affairs" column by Sayid 'Iz al-Din]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources stated that the Soviet Union last month provided Syria with 250 advanced T-80 Tanks, and that 100 of these tanks have been deployed in forward positions at the front of the Golan Heights, along with another 400 T-72's.

It is worth mentioning that the Israeli army does not possess any advanced tanks which could match the T-80 tanks.

AAPSO, LIBYAN BODY ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT

LD191150 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli February 19 TASS -- Serious concern over the explosive international situation as a result of the aggressive policy of U.S. Imperialism, Zionism and reaction has been expressed in the joint statement by the delegation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and the national committee of the Libyan Jamahiriyah for peace and solidarity with the peoples of Asia and Africa.

The document points to the paramount significance of a strengthening of the cohesion of the forces of socialism and progress in the struggle for strengtheing peace and security on earth. In that connection the Libyan side stressed the significance of the Soviet Union's peace initiatives directed at preventing the arms race, in particular, the Soviet programme for the total destruction of nuclear weapons by the year of 2000.

The Soviet delegation has condemned acts of U.S. and Israeli state terrorism and air piracy against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The sides expressed support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination and creation of its own independent state and condemned the attempts of imperialism and reaction at splitting the Palestine resistance movement and called for the restoration of unity of the Palestinian ranks on the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist basis.

They expressed solidarity with the peoples of Africa fighting for freedom and independence, for peace in the continent and urged all countries of the world to boycott the Pretoria criminal racist regime.

The Soviet delegation, the statement says, has briefed the Libyan colleagues on the Soviet Union's achievements in various fields and on the course of preparations for the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The Libyan side spoke highly of the peaceful aspirations of the friendly Soviet people directed at accelerated economic, scientific-technical and social progress.

PRAVDA CITES IRAQI CP JOURNAL ON PARTY CONGRESS

PM130945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The Iraqi Communists Congress"]

[Text] Damascus, 7 Feb -- The latest edition of AL-THAGAFAH AL-JADIDAH, the journal of the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP), has published a report on the results of the recent Fourth ICP Congress.

The keynote report delivered at the congress by 'Aziz Muhammad, first secretary of the ICP Central Committee, analyzed the party's policy and activities in the period since the Third ICP Congress (1976). Particular attention was paid in the report to questions connected with the continuing Iran-Iraq war. The rapporteur reiterated the ICP'S call for ending the war without delay which would be in keeping with the interests of the Iraqi people and all peace-loving forces.

Dwelling on tasks confronting the Communist Party, the ICP Congress noted the importance of strengthening the party on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and enhancing its role in the national democratic movement and expressed satisfaction with the firmness of the ICP'S international ties with the CPSU and the other fraternal communist and workers parties and detachments of the Arab national liberation movement. The congress emphasized that international solidarity is an important factor in the struggle for the implementation of the Iraqi people's aims.

The congress delegates discussed the situation in the Middle East and the Arab national liberation movement. The intensification of social factors in the development of this movement, the polarization of forces which is taking place in this movement on a class basis, and the escalation of imperialist intrigues were noted.

The ICP, the congress documents say, sides with the Palestinian people in their struggle for self-determination and the establishment of an independent state and it emphasizes the need to ensure the unity of the PLO on the basis of a national anti-imperialist program. The ICP Congress declared its solidarity with the Libyan patriots. Resolute support for Syria which is countering imperialist and Zionist intrigues, and solidarity with the struggle of the Algerian people for the preservation of the gains of the revolution was expressed, and imperialist threats against Libya were sharply denounced.

The ICP Congress documents level sharp criticism at the militarist policy of the imperialist circles and primarily the United States. The congress declared full support for the peace-loving policy of the USSR and for the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at securing detente, ending the arms race, and averting war.

The Iraqi Communists' Congress adopted a new ICP program entitled "Toward the Accomplishment of the National Democratic Revolution and the Transition to Socialism" and elected the Party's Central Committee. 'Aziz Muhammad was reelected first secretary of the ICP Central Committee.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS TIES WITH SAUDI ARABIA

PM180948 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Public Meeting"]

[Text] A public meeting devoted to the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia was held in Moscow 13 February.

The heads of diplomatic missions from a number of Arab states accredited in Moscow took part in the meeting.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON FRENCH TROOPS IN CHAD

Reinforcements Deployed

LD181309 Moscow TASS in English 1231 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, February 18 TASS -- Ndjamena, capital of Chad, resembles these days a foreign military base. In the past 24 hours more units of the French "rapid deployment force", "Jaguar" attack aircraft and "Mirage F-1" fighter planes were moved there. Missile systems have been brought there and are now being assembled.

According to news agencies, over 300 combat vehicles, including 50 tanks, are moving in columns from the Central African Republic to Chad for reinforcing the French interventionist corps. Hundreds of French servicemen have been sent to Ndjamena by air. 600 officers and men deployed in the Central African Republic have come to Bangui from France. The "Breguet-Atlantic" air reconnaissance planes and another 12 "Jaguar" planes will soon be moved from Bangui to Ndjamena.

A representative of the Transitional Government of National Unity in France stated again that the armed interference of France led to the turning of a purely internal conflict in Chad into an international conflict. A solution to the problem can be found by means of direct talks between the Transitional Government of National Unity and Ndjamena, he said.

'Interference' Provokes Concern

LD181458 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Commentary by station correspondent Yevgeniy Lukyanov]

[Text] The abrupt exacerbation of the situation in Chad, and France's open armed interference there have provoked serious concern and anxiety in African capitals. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Lukyanov reports from Algiers:

In a special statement by the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs it is stressed in this connection that the armed clashes in Chad run counter to the efforts undertaken recently by the African countries to achieve national reconciliation in Chad, and to prevent foreign interference in its internal affairs. However, the events of the past few days bear witness to the fact that this path to a peaceful settlement of the Chad problem does not accord with the interests of imperialist circles, in particular Paris, which, as is being pointed out here, is striving to solve the problem by resorting to military force. Suffice it to recall the French armed intervention in Chad, undertaken in 1983, in which over 3,000 troops and officers participated.

Today history is repeating itself, and once again subunits of French servicemen are being airlifted into Ndjamena, called upon to support the Habre regime. But judging by the latest reports from Chad, Paris has gone even further in expanding its intervention. Jaguar combat aircraft, deployed in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, have carried out a raid on the north of Chad from there, which is under the control of the Transitional Government of National Unity. The Jaguars carried out a bombing strike on Ouadi Doum airfield, located 150km away from the two of Faya-Largeau. The armed action undertaken by the French Air Force was resolutely condemned by the Transitional Government of National Unity in Chad.

It is perfectly obvious, the Algerian EL MOUDJAHID newspaper notes, that the latest events in Chad are only leading to an aggravation of the situation in that African country, and are running counter to the interests of its people, serving only to play into the hands of those who are striving for the weakening and disunity of Africa.

CROCKER-BOTHA TALKS IN GENEVA REVIEWED

LD172233 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Aleksandr Fedorov's "Weekly Review"]

[Excerpts] Today the review is devoted to last week's talks between South Africa's foreign minister, Roloef Botha and American assistant secretary of state for Africa, Chester Crocker.

According to Washington's plans, the meeting in Geneva was to show that some progress resulted from Mr Crocker's frequent contact with the South African ally and to strengthen the assurances that, in compliance with the wishes of the Reagan administration, the racists now resort to more persuasion than shooting. Notwithstanding this, precisely during the talks, police using American-made helicopters and armored vehicles fired on a church-sponsored orphanage for black children outside Johannesburg. In this case, the standard allegations that the police had to protect themselves against a mob could be used. Obviously Mr Crocker couldn't fail to rebuke the allies for their habit of shooting first and thinking afterwards.

It can also be presumed that Mr Botha, who is prone to act as an angry Boer, was not likely to swallow the rebuke in silence because it was the time when the press wrote much about the trial of Ramona Africa who had miraculously survived the bombing of a house in Philadelphia by the police. Roloef Botha obviously couldn't fail to use this opportunity and point out that America's policy towards blacks little differed from South Africa's.

I don't quite agree with those Western journalists who write that Roloef Botha and Chester Crocker had identical views in regard to South Africa's future, either. How could the American assistant secretary of state for Africa react to Mr Botha's hint that by the year 2000 the presidency in South Africa might belong to a moderate black? Express admiration or praise for deviation from the behest of the fathers of apartheid? Hardly, because he told the commission which considered the foundations of the so-called assumption constructive engagement he had worked out, that they should be firm in the assumption that South Africa would always be governed by white people. Everyone acquainted with political games played by the Pretoria rulers must realize, of course, that Roloef Botha's hint was part of the propagandistic campaign on alleged liberalization in South Africa. But the foreign minister ought to have expressed himself less categorically. He should have followed the example of his president who says that all constitutional amendments can be made only by means of a referendum with the representatives of the white community being the only people taking part. This includes a hint at possible reforms and an ambiguous promise that they will never be allowed.

Roloef Botha and Chester Crocker conferred for six hours. I can't believe that they just complimented one another. They must have had acute debates, but even if they had disputes, they argued not as adversaries but as allies and associates who want their alliance to become even stronger, who want to continue to struggle jointly against those who call their alliance a devilish union and demand an end to apartheid.

BOTHA SPEECH ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES CRITICIZED

Anatoliy Gromyko Comments

MB131818 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Recently the president of South Africa, Pieter Botha, addressed parliament and announced certain constitutional changes to be made in South Africa. The progressive peoples of the world regard this address as part of the apartheid regime's usual gimmicks. We would like to ask for a few comments on this issue from the director of Africa Institute, Academy of Sciences, and executive member of the African and Asian Solidarity Organization, Anatoliy Gromyko.

[Begin Gromyko recording in Russian fading into Zulu translation] Recently there has been a marked decline in the apartheid regime's power, particularly in the political and economic sectors. We see that more and more people have joined the liberation war in this country. The anti-apartheid campaign gains momentum daily despite attempts on the part of the regime to suppress the masses. This serves as a clear indication that the oppressed masses can no longer, as in the past, contain their impatience with the oppressive apartheid laws. They are no longer willing to just wait on the outcome of the verbal criticisms of apartheid in international forums, when on the home front the apartheid regime is increasingly employing violent suppression to maintain its hold.

This is why the regime is now coming up with more gimmicks to hoodwink the masses into thinking the government is genuinely working towards changes in the running of that country.

The changes mentioned by Botha are meaningless. Botha, for example, has promised to abolish the pass laws but still retains the Group Areas Act. Segregated educational facilities remain and so do many of the unjust laws. Botha's recent promises will go the same way as those he has made in the times past. The government's so-called promise of voting rights for all is questionable as it merely gives apartheid a new face and still leaves real power in the hands of the minority whites.

As we have followed the events in South Africa, we have found many crimes perpetrated by the apartheid regime in its determination to suppress the aspirations of the blacks of that country. It is obvious that the regime is incapable of change.

We should not forget that the United States, Britain, and other Western countries do all in their power to keep the apartheid regime in power. After all the regime's continued existence brings far reaching benefits to the economies of the West.

In spite of all this, I am witness to the fact that the government of the apartheid regime will not last. Apartheid rule must come to an end so that a government that is representative of all the nationalities in South Africa can be formed. [end recording]

Regime Incapable of Reform

MB170945 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] It appears that the president of South Africa, Mr Botha, has so far come up with a whole conglomeration of reform promises that he has proved incapable of fulfilling.

Our news analyst, Boris (Assoyan), writes that Botha is desperately trying to buy time for his regime by promising to scrap the pass laws and to form a National Statutary Council, that is, to have representation by all the country's different nationalities. He has even promised to release Nelson Mandela. To the ordinary person, this may give the false impression that Botha wants to dismantle apartheid, but the truth is that he is still proapartheid. The peoples of Africa see this whole process as a ploy by the government to buy time.

A fact that emerges today is that there are divisions among the white population over the question of reform. There are the liberals who now believe that there is no future for the country under apartheid. Then again there are the die-hard right-wingers who are totally against reform and see Botha's reform package as selling out on white supremacy. This division has caused a dilemma for the white minority regime. But in the final analysis Botha has to address the problem of revolution within the country, the problem of a people struggling for freedom from an oppressive regime that has lost credibility because of its constant vacillation on the question of genuine reform. The country also labors under immense economic problems complicated further by a lack of credibility in the West. With the escalation of antiapartheid campaigning the world over, there is growing speculation over whether the regime can withstand both internal and external political pressure, and over Botha's ability to survive 1986 as president of South Africa. Botha is giving in to a certain amount of reform, not because he genuinely believes in change, but because he wants to buy time to strengthen the hold of the present white minority regime.

The racist regime has so far shown itself incapable of governing the country. It is time to admit that Botha's reform package has not gone far enough and has failed. Apartheid has run out of time so why is the government still harassing and detaining antiapartheid activists? It still points to the fact that Botha is reluctant to relinquish the obvious benefits reaped by the white minority under apartheid. Genuine reform requires a mindboggling amount of reform that the regime is incapable of. The only way forward for South Africa is that the racist regime itself be removed.

RSA USE OF DEFENSE FORCES ABROAD CRITICIZED

MB140925 Moscow in Afrikaans to Southern Africa 1747 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Vladimir Valentinov commentary]

[Text] Ten years ago the South African parliament adopted an amendment to its defense act. The amendment stated that the SADF [South African Defense Force] could be sent to any part of the world if the South African Government thought its security was threatened. Radio Moscow analyst Vladimir Valentinov writes:

Many whites were proud of the amendment and welcomed the government's firm stand and determination against the so-called enemies of South Africa. By this term they referred mainly to the recently liberated neighboring countries of Angola and Mozambique. The only people who did not welcome the government's attacks on liberated Angola were the families of the (?young men) who died there. The official opposition itself was opposed to this attack ordered by the government. The country's economy was directed at militarization after the amendment was adopted. It was (?to the advantage) of the bond between the government politicians and the top officials in the Defense Force. The Defense Force saw this as a weapon against Africa. It also generated profits for the local and foreign corporations which specialized in military and semi-military wares.

And, of course, it was to the advantage of the allies of South Africa, particularly the United States, which saw this as a [word indistinct]. And what about those who had to implement this amendment? The militarization of the state hurts the economic and international standing of the country, it now seems. And the living standards of the people suffered. Most men have to serve in the defense force from the age of 17 years to 60 years, and are potential victims. The attacks against neighboring states continue, as well as the occupation of Namibia. Every soldier in the SADF faces the possibility of being killed. A mother can lose her son, a bride may never see her husband again, and his children can be made fatherless. When this happens, the family, the neighbors, the friends of the dead soldier ask: Why? Is there really a threat against the security of the nation which can be driven off only at the cost of so many lives? Throughout South Africa people are asking the same question. They are (?aware) that today South Africa is considered by the international community as the cause of permanent tension in the region.

COMMENTARY DECRIES RSA DESTABILIZATION OF ZIMBABWE

MB180508 Moscow in Ndebele to Zimbabwe 1730 GMT 17 Feb 86

[(Gregor Bashov) commentary]

[Text] Recently, Zimbabwe has been threatened by Pretoria's apartheid regime. President Botha has personally joined the campaign to persuade Zimbabwe, by means of brute force, to dance to Pretoria's dictates. The whole Zimbabwean public is on edge at the news that South Africa intends to invade Zimbabwe militarily. The reason behind this moves is not hard to find. It is small and simple. Our correspondent on African affairs in the USSR, (Gregor Bashov), explains it as follows:

The Pretoria regime has been constantly groping for varied excuses to destabilize Zimbabwe. The South African Government disagrees strongly with the Zimbabwean Government's support and assistance for South African antiapartheid freedom fighters. South Africa also objects vehemently to Zimbabwe's military assistance to the Government of Mozambique in its fight against the MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] bandits. In short, Zimbabwe's emerging socioeconomic reforms, aimed at improving the developing country's living standards, clash with Pretoria's views on the conduct of international relations and domestic policy.

Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, Zimbabwean minister of state security, held a press conference not too long ago. In that press conference, he said that the Pretoria regime has been at pains to find ways to invade Zimbabwe since Zimbabwe attained independence in 1980. South African Air Force planes have violated Zimbabwean airspace many times. They have flown deep into Zimbabwe in violation of international law. South African secret ground forces had penetrated the RSA-Zimbabwe border and conducted bombing forays against isolated innocent villages. South African counterinsurgency forces aid and abet dissidents, who are hell-bent to weaken and destroy the Zimbabwean economy.

At this very moment, the South African Government is heavily engaged in providing military training and weapons assistance to certain selected dissident areas inside Zimbabwe. This is occurring despite repeated warnings by President Banana and Prime Minister Mugabe that South Africa cease and desist from the illegal behavior. This confirms President Samora Machel's recent observation that the greatest threat to South Africa is South Africa itself. The Pretoria regime maintains extensive destabilization plans against its neighboring countries. These countries are free and enjoy full sovereignty.

Most of the destabilization plans were blatantly exposed after the capture of Gorongosa, an MNR stronghold in Sofala Province, by the combined operational force of Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops. Documents discovered at this camp clearly indicated the type of assistance South Africa had given to the MNR in order to foil the Frontline States' strategy for achieving economic independence from South Africa.

Aside from South Africa's regular military forays into neighboring African states, South Africa also uses economic strangulation and disinformation tactics developed by its ally, the United States. The purpose of Radio Truth, a station that beams programs into Zimbabwe, is suspect. What type of truth can this station reveal to the people of Zimbabwe? Many ill-informed people in the West constantly concoct "true stories" about events in Zimbabwe.

Mr Enos Nkala, Zimbabwe's minister of home affairs, in his recent Kariba speech noted that some foreign envoys in Harare were in league with the dissident faction of the Zimbabwean population. They helped spread lies and misinformation about Zimbabwe. Mr Nkala asserted that foreign attempts to coerce Zimbabwe to abandon its chosen course of self-reliance and independence would fail miserably.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO RESUME WITH IVORY COAST

LD200919 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0847 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (TASS) -- A joint communique concerning the resumption of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Republic of the Ivory Coast announced here:

The Governments of the USSR and the Republic of the Ivory Coast, being guided by a common desire to develop relations of friendship and cooperation between their peoples, have decided to resume diplomatic relations between the two countries and renew activity of embassies in the capitals of the two countries in as short time as possible.

MENGISTU SPEECH AT ETHIOPIAN CONGRESS CITED

PM191521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Important Tasks"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 18 Feb -- The building of a society of social justice and equality in Ethiopia demands selfless labor for the motherland's sake by every citizen, as well as the all-around mobilization of the creative potential of the broad people's masses. This was stated by Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE) Central Committee and chairman of the Provisional Military Administration Council, at a national congress held here of professional associations of workers in education and health care, journalists, and writers, as well as the country's creative associations.

The Ethiopian head of state stressed that the fulfillment of the tasks of socioeconomic development outlined by the party and government take on particular significance now, on the eve of the establishment of a people's democratic republic in Ethiopia.

ETHIOPIAN MINISTER EXPRESSES THANKS FOR AID

LD171148 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 17 TASS -- TASS correspondents Gennadiy Gabrielyan and Sergey Petukhov report:

The Government of the Soviet Union and the CPSU have rendered Ethiopia inestimable assistance in dealing with consequences of a long drought, primarily in moving hundreds of thousands of people from areas of the natural calamity to fertile regions. This was stated here by member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia, Minister of Information and National Orientation Feleke Gedle-Georgis. He made a speech at a ceremony of handing over to the Ethiopian side a gift from the Soviet Union -- 150 sets of various equipment for the installation of radio in the migrants' villages.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia I express profound gratitude to the Soviet people for the undelayed and consistent aid in transport facilities, food clothes and medicines to the drought-stricken population of Ethiopia, said Feleke Gedle-Georgis. The minister noted the noble mission of the Soviet doctors, who having set up a mobile field hospital in Asosa, saved the lives of thousands of Ethiopians. He highly appreciated activities of Soviet teachers who are rendering Ethiopia broad assistance in training national cadres. The links between Ethiopia and the Soviet Union are now broadening in all spheres of interstate relations, said Feleke Gedle-Georgis. The firm political foundation of that is the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries which was concluded in November 1978. Our countries, stressed the minister, hold common positions on the international scene, wage joint struggle for peace, against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER ON TIES WITH USSR

PM141507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by own correspondent L. Shinkarev: "High Assessment; Trade and Economic Cooperation Is Expanding Between the USSR and Mozambique"]

[Text] Maputo -- "There is virtually no field in Mozambique's economic and social life in which our people have not relied on cooperation with the Soviet Union," Joachim Chissano, member of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party Central Committee Politburo and Mozambique foreign minister, said in an address to mark the 10th anniversary of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique.

Our people, the minister stressed, highly value Soviet people's heroic solidarity and are convinced that Lenin's compatriots, working hand in hand with us, will continue to be our reliable bulwark. The Mozambique people, J. Chissano continued, are struggling against armed gangs trained and financed by the Republic of South Africa. We have had to direct large material and financial resources into the consolidation of defense capability and the defense of our independence, won at a high cost, he noted. This war imposed on us by the apartheid regime is a component of its strategy in the region aimed at destabilizing the situation in the independent countries of southern Africa.

Our efforts are part of the joint actions by the entire international public to achieve peace. We want material and financial resources to cease to serve military purposes and the arms race and to be aimed at economic, technical, scientific, and social progress.

DE LA MADRID CALLS FOR HALT TO U.S. PRESSURE

LD200815 Moscow TASS in English 0754 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Mexico City, February 20 TASS -- President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico has urged the U.S. Administration to put an end to building up tensions in Central America, and stressed the importance of a political settlement in the region on the basis of respect for the legitimate interests of all peoples inhabiting it. In the course of a meeting with Harry Shlaudemann, President Reagan's personal envoy in Central America, the Mexican president pointed to the pressing need for creating in Central America a political climate contributing to the attainment of peace through talks. The visit of President Reagan's envoy to Mexico, the local observers point out, is part of the pressure brought by the White House to bear on the Mexican Government in order to persuade it to show "greater understanding" of the adventurist policy of the United States in the Central American region.

GRENADA IN DECLINE ON EVE OF REAGAN VISIT

LD191141 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] According to a White House spokesman, President Reagan will pay a brief visit to Grenada tomorrow. This insular state was captured by American troops in October 1983. The press recalls in this context the statement made by President Reagan at a ceremony devoted to the first anniversary since the invasion of Grenada. He said that brave American soldiers went to Grenada not as conquerors, but as liberators. The United States still keeps secret the number of people that died in Grenada at the hands of these liberators. Thirteen thousand officers and men took part in the invasion. The liberation American-style has brought about a decay in all the spheres of life. The unemployment level has gone up to 40 percent; there is a shortage of food; the rights that the people of Grenada enjoyed under the democratic government have been reduced to nil.

FIVE DIE IN AMBUSH BY 'CIA MERCENARIES'

LD191348 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Managua, February 19 TASS -- The CIA mercenaries committed a bloody crime in the north-western frontier zone of Nicaragua a few days ago. A group of unarmed civilians was ambushed by the Somoza men near the Somotilho settlement. Despite doctors' efforts, another two women died of wounds. A total of five Nicaraguan peasant women and a Swiss citizen who assisted in forming agricultural cooperatives, died as a result of that barbarous action. Nine women and children are in a critical condition. They were heavily wounded by terrorists whom the American Administration cynically names as "fighters for democracy".

ORTEGA DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY WITH LEGISLATORS

LD171931 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Managua, February 17 TASS -- "The intention of the United States Administration to make Congress allocate millions of more dollars for the third Somocista bands reflects its policy of intensifying American military interference in Central American affairs", it was stated by President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua. Speaking to a group of American legislators from Oregon, the Nicaraguan leader stressed that should the United States Congress go along with the administration aggressive plans this would entail a deterioration of the dangerous military confrontation in the region.

The democratic public in Latin America, as well as in the United States, is opposed to Washington's interventionist policy", Daniel Ortega went on. "This is evidenced, for instance, by the message sent by a group of American congressmen to the President demanding that he support the Contadora Group's peace initiatives. But under the pressure of the United States the obedient Central American regimes refuse to conduct talks on the basis of the peace plan proposed by the countries of the Contadora Group".

When appearing on the "Face the Nation" radio and television programme President Ortega condemned the escalation of American imperialism's aggression aimed at destabilishing Nicaragua's economy. "The criminal acts of subversion by Washington's mercenaries inflict damage on the Republic's agricultural production, the president said.

New York, February 17 TASS -- Washington does not intend to stop its interventionist poicy in respect of Nicaragua or change its intention to topple that country's lawful government by using bands of terrorists formed by the Central Intelligence Agency as a proxy. This follows from an interview given by Patrick Buchanan, to the CNN television company in which he stressed that the administration intended shortly to formally ask Congress to allocate more money to help the "contras". Buchanan hypocritically called these thugs "freedom fighters" and stated that the aim of American assistance is to give them a possibility to "continue the struggle" and "achieve victory".

ORTEGA SPEAKS AT CONFERENCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES

LD152059 Moscow TASS in English 2027 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Managua, February 15 TASS -- A real and true democracy is being built in Nicaragua, not the democracy that U.S. rulers would like to see, the President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega has stated. Speaking at the conference of political parties and organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean Basin which has come to a close here, Daniel Ortega underlined that this democracy was based on the principles of non-alignment, political pluralism and mixed economy that were put into practice in the interests of broad popular masses. We have upheld and will continue to uphold this type of democracy, D. Ortega stressed. He resolutely turned down the attempts of the U.S. Administration to lecture Nicaragua on what kind of democracy should exist there.

The U.S. Administration has succeeded in turning the U.S. Congress into an accomplice of its terroristic policy with regard to Nicaragua, the Nicaraguan leader said further. Daniel Ortega urged to consolidate the unity of Latin America, to protect the Nicaraguan revolution, and pointed out that it also meant the consolidation of the struggle potential of Latin American nations, the consolidation of positions of the governments of Latin American countries.

Proposals were submitted to the conference on the setting up of the permanent committee "For Peace and Non-Interference in Central America" and on launching an international Latin American campaign in defense of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Conference Ends in Managua

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[Text] Managua, February 14 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin reports:

A conference of representatives of political parties of Latin America and the Caribbean under the keynote "For Peace and Nonintervention in the Affairs of Central America" closed in the Nicaraguan capital.

The participants in the conference held Washington responsible for the aggravation of the situation in the Central American region, for the arms race, for an unfair international economic order and for the growing foreign indebtedness of developing states. They called upon the democratic forces of the continent to mobilise the mass of the population in their countries for active struggle against U.S. aggressive policy and for the restoration of peace in Central America.

Washington is formulating its foreign policy in accordance with its strategic doctrine, which benefits the military-industrial complex, Bayardo Arce [spelling as received], deputy coordinator of the Executive Commission of the National Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, said at the closing session of the conference. Following reactionary, militarist and hegemonistic concepts, he stressed, the White House is going ahead with its "star wars" preparations, has carried out a criminal invasion of Grenada is expanding its military presence in Central America and has trained and armed gangs of contras with the purpose of crushing the young Nicaraguan revolution.

Arce expressed gratitude to political parties of the continent for their support of the Sandinista people's revolution.

FPMR'S OBJECTIVES, PLANS, VIEWS PUBLISHED

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[Text] In an article published in EL RODRIGUISTA, the official organ of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], the Front has pointed out that there are three sectors within the Chilean Armed Forces: the sector which unconditionally supports Pinochet, the sector willing to support a civilian solution and to immediately begin a dialogue with the political parties, and the sector that wants to negotiate the situation in 1989 when Pinochet's term will allegedly end. This last sector wants a transition with some security for the future, with immunity from prosecution for military men for crimes committed during repressive activities.

The FPMR said that the masses can impose their will through permanent and resolute mobilization. While some lukewarm opposition sectors would be satisfied with a half-democratic government, the masses want a political and socioeconomic system that will more efficiently help them overcome their difficulties.

EL RODRIGUISTA added that the FPMR's objective is to lend stronger support to the struggle for democracy. In this regard, it is necessary to attack the regime's military power, because, the Front states, this is the only kind of power the government still maintains.

The official FPMR organ stressed that conditions are ripe for great battles, for a popular uprising, and for a national revolt in 1986. The masses have created a situation in which the following step must be the seizure of power, the FPMR said. The Front emphasized the need to strengthen the mobilization of all anti-fascist sectors.

It denounced the maneuvers that U.S. Ambassador Harry Barnes and his large number of advisers are staging in Santiago. The U.S. Government, fearing a popular uprising, has embarked on a political-military campaign. However, there is no real contradiction between the dictatorship and Washington. It is Pinochet and his image -- not his government -- which are not good for the United States, the FPMR stated.